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No. 61

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PETRI).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 28, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable THOMAS E. PETRI to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Bless abundantly the Members of this people's House as they return from a long recess, when millions of Americans remembered who they were as men and women of faith. Their prayers must certainly include hope that our Nation's ongoing challenges might be met with wisdom in solutions forged by all those who represent them.

During this season of new growth, may Your redemptive power help those who have been elected by their fellow citizens to see new ways to productive service, fresh approaches to understanding each other, especially those across the aisle, and renewed commitment to solving the problems facing our Nation.

May they, and may we all, be transformed by Your grace, and better reflect the sense of wonder, even joy, at the opportunities to serve that are ever before us.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST FOR MOX REPORT

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in February, the President, sadly, announced his plan to terminate the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, also known as MOX, at the Savannah River Site.

The administration blamed the cost estimate as the reason to halt construction. Shutting down this project halts environmental cleanup, which is converting weapons-grade plutonium into green fuel.

South Carolina and Georgia are at risk of being a nuclear waste dump site, breaking a nonproliferation agreement with Russia. This highly exaggerated cost was assessed in a report that is closed to the public.

Constituents living in Aiken and Barnwell Counties, adjacent to Georgia, deserve to know the truth. I am grateful that the Aiken Standard has filed a Freedom of Information Act request in pursuit of the cost analysis.

We should be working together for environmental cleanup, for non-proliferation compliance, and for national security to support the Savannah River Site in its vital mission with dedicated employees.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today, on Holocaust Remembrance Day, we solemnly reflect on the 6 million Jews who were systematically murdered by a madman known as Hitler and his Nazi followers.

We remember the children torn from the arms of their parents as they marched to the gas chambers. We remember the teenagers who were forced to dig their own graves. We remember the men and women who perished in labor camps from disease and starvation.

This day is a tribute to the enduring memory of the destruction of humanity during the Jewish Holocaust. It is a forceful reminder for generations to come: never forget, and never again.

ARMY RESERVE 106TH BIRTHDAY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the United States Army Reserve, which this week celebrates 106 years of service defending our country.

For generations, the Army Reserve has played an essential role in the defense of this Nation. These citizen-soldiers are also actively engaged citizens

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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in every community throughout the country. They continue to be a true testament to America's All-Volunteer Armed Forces.

Most reservists must strike a balance between family life, full-time employment, and the growing demands of serving in our Nation's professional Army. This upcoming weekend I will have the honor of meeting with several Army Reserve units throughout Pennsylvania to highlight the important role that these men and women play in our national defense and also our local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Army Reserve for continuing to play an important role in the defense of our great Nation.

I rise and reiterate how very proud we are of these men and women and all that they do for our country and to wish a special 106th birthday to our Army Reserve.

GROUNDBREAKING OF THE CONNECTICUT TREES OF HONOR MEMORIAL

(Ms. ESTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, last week Connecticut broke ground on a new memorial to honor the 65 men and women who died serving our country in the war on terror.

Like all memorials, this beautiful place will serve both as a source of comfort for loved ones, as well as a lasting reminder of the cost of freedom. That cost is measured in lives, but also in promises kept.

We have a duty to honor our veterans and support their families. That is why I am a proud author of the Caregivers Expansion and Improvement Act. My bill would assist home caregivers of all veterans injured during their service, allowing them to recover in the comfort of their own homes.

I stand with the VFW and the DAV to do my part to ensure that we care and honor all those who so bravely serve our country.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 3383.

IF YOU LIKE YOUR DOCTORS, YOU CAN KEEP YOUR DOCTORS, BUT WE WON'T PAY THEM

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, just late last week there was a news story that healthcare.gov was still not finished. The back-end portion, the part that deals with payments to doctors and hospitals, still has not been constructed.

Now, that was odd because just the week before the President held a big press conference down at the White House and said, Mission accomplished;

everything we wanted to do has been done.

Well, how do you reconcile these discrepancies? What, in fact, is the timeline for this to be accomplished?

Mission accomplished: the patients, the doctors, and the hospitals who are going to end up the ones on the hook for these payments that are not going to be received, I wonder if they feel the same way.

WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY

(Mr. MAFFEI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate Workers' Memorial Day, which is today, and honor those Americans who have lost their lives.

From steel mills to nursing homes, offices to construction sites, we must work to strengthen safety measures for all those who still face hazards in the workplace. We must ensure that workers in all areas are able to do their jobs in a safe environment. That includes agriculture.

Whether in a factory or on a farm, even one death on the job is too many. But in central New York, we are seeing far too many farmworkers being hurt and killed. In fact, two died in farm accidents in a single week recently. That is why I support the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's local emphasis program. My office and I have worked hard to ensure that dairies know the standards and have a reasonable time to comply.

But on this Workers' Memorial Day, let's dedicate ourselves to making our farms safe workplaces and support OSHA's efforts to do so.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by Speaker pro tempore THORNBERRY on Thursday, April 10, 2014:

S. 2195, to deny admission to the United States to any representative to the United Nations who has been found to have been engaged in espionage activities or a terrorist activity against the United States and poses a threat to United States national security interests.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 10, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of

the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 10, 2014 at 5:32 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 994.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 11, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 11, 2014 at 11:33 a.m.:

Appointments: National Commission on Hunger.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 17, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the Superior Court for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for both documents and testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will determine whether compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN,
Member of Congress.

COMMUNICATION FROM DIRECTOR OF APPROPRIATIONS, THE HONORABLE CHAKA FATTAH, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Michelle Anderson-Lee, Director of Appropriations, the Honorable CHAKA FATTAH, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2014.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules

of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena, issued by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, for testimony in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will determine whether compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

MICHELLE ANDERSON-LEE,
Director of Appropriations.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1610

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX) at 4 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

DIGITAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2014

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 994) to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to increase accountability and transparency in Federal spending, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 994

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014" or the "DATA Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this Act are to—

(1) expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) by disclosing direct Federal agency expenditures and linking Federal contract, loan, and grant spending information to programs of Federal agencies to enable taxpayers and policy makers to track Federal spending more effectively;

(2) establish Government-wide data standards for financial data and provide consistent, reliable, and searchable Government-wide spending data that is displayed accurately for taxpayers and policy makers on USASpending.gov (or a successor system that displays the data);

(3) simplify reporting for entities receiving Federal funds by streamlining reporting requirements and reducing compliance costs while improving transparency;

(4) improve the quality of data submitted to USASpending.gov by holding Federal agencies accountable for the completeness and accuracy of the data submitted; and

(5) apply approaches developed by the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board to spending across the Federal Government.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2006.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note) is amended—

(1) in section 2—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "this section" and inserting "this Act";

(ii) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) as paragraphs (2), (4), and (7), respectively;

(iii) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

"(1) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.";

(iv) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

"(3) FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term 'Federal agency' has the meaning given the term 'Executive agency' under section 105 of title 5, United States Code.";

(v) by inserting after paragraph (4), as so redesignated, the following:

"(5) OBJECT CLASS.—The term 'object class' means the category assigned for purposes of the annual budget of the President submitted under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, to the type of property or services purchased by the Federal Government."

"(6) PROGRAM ACTIVITY.—The term 'program activity' has the meaning given that term under section 1115(h) of title 31, United States Code.";

(vi) by adding at the end the following:

"(8) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Treasury.";

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (3), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget"; and

(ii) in paragraph (4), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget";

(C) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (4), by striking "and" at the end;

(ii) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) shall have the ability to aggregate data for the categories described in paragraphs (1) through (5) without double-counting data; and

"(7) shall ensure that all information published under this section is available—

"(A) in machine-readable and open formats;

"(B) to be downloaded in bulk; and

"(C) to the extent practicable, for automated processing.";

(D) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget";

(ii) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget"; and

(II) in subparagraph (B), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget";

(E) in subsection (e), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget"; and

(F) in subsection (g)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget"; and

(ii) in paragraph (3), by striking "of the Office of Management and Budget"; and

(2) by striking sections 3 and 4 and inserting the following:

"SEC. 3. FULL DISCLOSURE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014, and monthly when practicable but not less than quarterly thereafter, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall ensure that the information in subsection (b) is posted on the website established under section 2.

"(b) INFORMATION TO BE POSTED.—For any funds made available to or expended by a Federal agency or component of a Federal agency, the information to be posted shall include—

"(1) for each appropriations account, including an expired or unexpired appropriations account, the amount—

"(A) of budget authority appropriated;

"(B) that is obligated;

"(C) of unobligated balances; and

"(D) of any other budgetary resources;

"(2) from which accounts and in what amount—

"(A) appropriations are obligated for each program activity; and

"(B) outlays are made for each program activity;

"(3) from which accounts and in what amount—

"(A) appropriations are obligated for each object class; and

"(B) outlays are made for each object class; and

"(4) for each program activity, the amount—

"(A) obligated for each object class; and

"(B) of outlays made for each object class.

"SEC. 4. DATA STANDARDS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS.—The Secretary and the Director, in consultation with the heads of Federal agencies, shall establish Government-wide financial data standards for any Federal funds made available to or expended by Federal agencies and entities receiving Federal funds.

"(2) DATA ELEMENTS.—The financial data standards established under paragraph (1) shall include common data elements for financial and payment information required to be reported by Federal agencies and entities receiving Federal funds.

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The data standards established under subsection (a) shall, to the extent reasonable and practicable—

"(1) incorporate widely accepted common data elements, such as those developed and maintained by—

"(A) an international voluntary consensus standards body;

"(B) Federal agencies with authority over contracting and financial assistance; and

"(C) accounting standards organizations;

"(2) incorporate a widely accepted, non-proprietary, searchable, platform-independent computer-readable format;

"(3) include unique identifiers for Federal awards and entities receiving Federal awards that can be consistently applied Government-wide;

"(4) be consistent with and implement applicable accounting principles;

"(5) be capable of being continually upgraded as necessary;

"(6) produce consistent and comparable data, including across program activities; and

"(7) establish a standard method of conveying the reporting period, reporting entity, unit of measure, and other associated attributes.

"(c) DEADLINES.—

“(1) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014, the Director and the Secretary shall issue guidance to Federal agencies on the data standards established under subsection (a).

“(2) AGENCIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), not later than 2 years after the date on which the guidance under paragraph (1) is issued, each Federal agency shall report financial and payment information data in accordance with the data standards established under subsection (a).

“(B) NONINTERFERENCE WITH AUDITABILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Upon request by the Secretary of Defense, the Director may grant an extension of the deadline under subparagraph (A) to the Department of Defense for a period of not more than 6 months to report financial and payment information data in accordance with the data standards established under subsection (a).

“(ii) LIMITATION.—The Director may not grant more than 3 extensions to the Secretary of Defense under clause (i).

“(iii) NOTIFICATION.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives of—

“(I) each grant of an extension under clause (i); and

“(II) the reasons for granting such an extension.

“(3) WEBSITE.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which the guidance under paragraph (1) is issued, the Director and the Secretary shall ensure that the data standards established under subsection (a) are applied to the data made available on the website established under section 2.

“(d) CONSULTATION.—The Director and the Secretary shall consult with public and private stakeholders in establishing data standards under this section.

“SEC. 5. SIMPLIFYING FEDERAL AWARD REPORTING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director, in consultation with relevant Federal agencies, recipients of Federal awards, including State and local governments, and institutions of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall review the information required to be reported by recipients of Federal awards to identify—

“(1) common reporting elements across the Federal Government;

“(2) unnecessary duplication in financial reporting; and

“(3) unnecessarily burdensome reporting requirements for recipients of Federal awards.

“(b) PILOT PROGRAM.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014, the Director, or a Federal agency designated by the Director, shall establish a pilot program (in this section referred to as the ‘pilot program’) with the participation of appropriate Federal agencies to facilitate the development of recommendations for—

“(A) standardized reporting elements across the Federal Government;

“(B) the elimination of unnecessary duplication in financial reporting; and

“(C) the reduction of compliance costs for recipients of Federal awards.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The pilot program shall—

“(A) include a combination of Federal contracts, grants, and subawards, the aggregate value of which is not less than \$1,000,000,000 and not more than \$2,000,000,000;

“(B) include a diverse group of recipients of Federal awards; and

“(C) to the extent practicable, include recipients who receive Federal awards from multiple programs across multiple agencies.

“(3) DATA COLLECTION.—The pilot program shall include data collected during a 12-month reporting cycle.

“(4) REPORTING AND EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS.—Each recipient of a Federal award participating in the pilot program shall submit to the Office of Management and Budget or the Federal agency designated under paragraph (1), as appropriate, any requested reports of the selected Federal awards.

“(5) TERMINATION.—The pilot program shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the date on which the pilot program is established.

“(6) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the pilot program terminates under paragraph (5), the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives a report on the pilot program, which shall include—

“(A) a description of the data collected under the pilot program, the usefulness of the data provided, and the cost to collect the data from recipients; and

“(B) a discussion of any legislative action required and recommendations for—

“(i) consolidating aspects of Federal financial reporting to reduce the costs to recipients of Federal awards;

“(ii) automating aspects of Federal financial reporting to increase efficiency and reduce the costs to recipients of Federal awards;

“(iii) simplifying the reporting requirements for recipients of Federal awards; and

“(iv) improving financial transparency.

“(7) GOVERNMENT-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Director submits the report under paragraph (6), the Director shall issue guidance to the heads of Federal agencies as to how the Government-wide financial data standards established under section 4(a) shall be applied to the information required to be reported by entities receiving Federal awards to—

“(A) reduce the burden of complying with reporting requirements; and

“(B) simplify the reporting process, including by reducing duplicative reports.

“SEC. 6. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR FEDERAL FUNDING.

“(a) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with paragraph (2), the Inspector General of each Federal agency, in consultation with the Comptroller General of the United States, shall—

“(A) review a statistically valid sampling of the spending data submitted under this Act by the Federal agency; and

“(B) submit to Congress and make publicly available a report assessing the completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data sampled and the implementation and use of data standards by the Federal agency.

“(2) DEADLINES.—

“(A) FIRST REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the Director and the Secretary issue guidance to Federal agencies under section 4(c)(1), the Inspector General of each Federal agency shall submit and make publicly available a report as described in paragraph (1).

“(B) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—On the same date as the Inspector General of each Federal agency submits the second and fourth reports under sections 3521(f) and 9105(a)(3) of title 31, United States Code, that are submitted after the report under subparagraph (A), the Inspector General shall submit and make publicly available a report as described in paragraph (1). The report submitted under this subparagraph may be submitted as a part of the report submitted under section 3521(f) or 9105(a)(3) of title 31, United States Code.

“(b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with paragraph (2) and after a review of the reports submitted under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report assessing and comparing the data completeness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of the data submitted under this Act by Federal agencies and the implementation and use of data standards by Federal agencies.

“(2) DEADLINES.—Not later than 30 months after the date on which the Director and the Secretary issue guidance to Federal agencies under section 4(c)(1), and every 2 years thereafter until the date that is 4 years after the date on which the first report is submitted under this subsection, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit and make publicly available a report as described in paragraph (1).

“(c) RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY BOARD DATA ANALYSIS CENTER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish a data analysis center or expand an existing service to provide data, analytic tools, and data management techniques to support—

“(A) the prevention and reduction of improper payments by Federal agencies; and

“(B) improving efficiency and transparency in Federal spending.

“(2) DATA AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary shall enter into memoranda of understanding with Federal agencies, including Inspectors General and Federal law enforcement agencies—

“(A) under which the Secretary may provide data from the data analysis center for—

“(i) the purposes set forth under paragraph (1);

“(ii) the identification, prevention, and reduction of waste, fraud, and abuse relating to Federal spending; and

“(iii) use in the conduct of criminal and other investigations; and

“(B) which may require the Federal agency, Inspector General, or Federal law enforcement agency to provide reimbursement to the Secretary for the reasonable cost of carrying out the agreement.

“(3) TRANSFER.—Upon the establishment of a data analysis center or the expansion of a service under paragraph (1), and on or before the date on which the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board terminates, and in addition to any other transfer that the Director determines is necessary under section 1531 of title 31, United States Code, there are transferred to the Department of the Treasury all assets identified by the Secretary that support the operations and activities of the Recovery Operations Center of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board relating to the detection of waste, fraud, and abuse in the use of Federal funds that are in existence on the day before the transfer.

“SEC. 7. CLASSIFIED AND PROTECTED INFORMATION.

“Nothing in this Act shall require the disclosure to the public of—

“(1) information that would be exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5,

United States Code (commonly known as the 'Freedom of Information Act'); or

"(2) information protected under section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Privacy Act of 1974'), or section 6103 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"SEC. 8. NO PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.

"Nothing in this Act shall be construed to create a private right of action for enforcement of any provision of this Act."

SEC. 4. EXECUTIVE AGENCY ACCOUNTING AND OTHER FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORTS AND PLANS.

Section 3512(a)(1) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting "and make available on the website described under section 1122" after "appropriate committees of Congress".

SEC. 5. DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT.

Section 3716(c)(6) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting "(A)" before "Any Federal agency";

(2) in subparagraph (A), as so designated, by striking "180 days" and inserting "120 days"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) The Secretary of the Treasury shall notify Congress of any instance in which an agency fails to notify the Secretary as required under subparagraph (A)."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 994, the Digital Accountability and Transparency Act, or DATA Act.

As chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, I have looked to tackle major problems pervasive in the Federal Government.

Over the past 4 years, our committee, the majority and the minority, has taken up and moved several bills designed to reform the Federal Government.

Majority Leader CANTOR has worked with leaders on both sides of the aisle to take most of those reforms and advance them through the full House, often on a unanimous basis.

All Members of the House can be proud of the work we have done to improve the Federal Government. Without a doubt, the most important transparency reform we have pushed over the last 4 years has been the DATA Act. The DATA Act is but a first shot of a technological revolution that will transform the way we govern.

Just 3 weeks ago, the GAO's Comptroller General Gene Dodaro came be-

fore our committee and testified that the status of the Federal data programs is abysmal. Agencies have no standardized performance metrics for their programs. Agencies cannot tell us how many programs they have. But most importantly, agencies do not and usually cannot tell us how much taxpayer money has been spent on any given program.

The spending information that is provided is often incomplete, out-of-date, and very often inaccurate. The American people deserve to know if their taxpayer dollars are being wasted or whether they are being spent wisely. Even the meager amount of performance information collected today is useless if it cannot determine how much resources any given program truly consumes.

This information disadvantages not only Congress, but in fact the President's administration. Presidential administrations one after another consist of but a few thousand officials to oversee a workforce of nearly 2 million people and trillions of dollars.

Regardless of political party affiliation, each Congress and every President is frustrated by this large, permanent, unaccountable class of bureaucrats.

□ 1615

Some scholars have even deemed the permanent bureaucracy as the "fourth branch" of the Federal Government.

In order to better oversee the Federal Government, Congress, and even the President and his appointees, must better leverage the technology available today. The DATA Act will allow us to do just that.

I introduced the first version of the DATA Act in 2011. Its inspiration came from a relatively small expense in the Obama administration's 2009 stimulus spending bill, a bill that I overall did not approve of but which did have this important accountability standard.

The stimulus temporarily established an entity called the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board. The Board was chaired by a respected inspector general, Earl Devaney. Under Chairman Devaney's leadership, the Board established direct reporting requirements for stimulus projects and standardized Federal agency reporting. This allowed inspector generals and other law enforcement agencies to more effectively prosecute fraud and prevent improper payments.

Furthermore, this information was made available to the public online in an easy-to-download, easy-to-manipulate format so that journalists, academics, and government watchdogs could more easily analyze stimulus spending.

I met with Vice President JOE BIDEN in November of 2010, prior to even becoming the chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Despite possible disagreements on some aspects of the stimulus, we found ourselves very much in sup-

port of the Recovery Board's successes and knew that it could be replicated across the entire Federal Government.

I want to thank Vice President BIDEN for his continued public and private support for the kinds of reforms embedded in this legislation today, and particularly for continuing to be a champion of the Recovery Board's work and the transparency it brought.

In order to do what we agreed to back in 2010, the Federal Government would need standardized data and reporting by all Federal agencies and improved recipient reporting. That is the only way that you could accomplish this, and legislative action was needed.

After months of working with leading experts in the field of standardized reporting, I introduced in July of 2011 the first version of the DATA Act, H.R. 2146. Later that year, I joined with Ranking Member ELIJAH CUMMINGS to refine the legislation and mark it up through our committee.

I want to thank Representatives on both sides of the aisle here today for the bipartisan nature in which we worked on this kind of transparency work. It is technical. It is sometimes hard. Of course, it is a pushback from bureaucrats, but it is what Congress is supposed to do: make the institutional changes that make government more accountable.

In April 2012 we brought it to the floor on a bipartisan basis and passed the first version of the DATA Act unanimously. While a companion version, S. 3600, was introduced by Senator MARK WARNER of Virginia and Senator ROB PORTMAN of Ohio that year, the Senate did not act on either it or the House-passed bill.

Last year we reintroduced the DATA Act as H.R. 2061 and approved it unanimously out of our committee. We made significant changes to streamline the bill, but we maintained the focus on its core elements. Simultaneously, Senator WARNER and Senator PORTMAN introduced a new Senate companion, S. 994, the bill before us today. The House acted quickly again and approved H.R. 2061 by a vote of 388-1.

Knowing that the legislative calendar was short, House and Senate sponsors worked with Senator CARPER and Senator COBURN in a preconference process that ensured the bill would be taken up by the full Senate and which anticipates our passage here today.

We also were able to bring to the table those reformers in the administration—both political appointees and career civil servants—to offer technical improvements to the bill, and they are incorporated in this legislation.

While the bill does not contain all reforms the House advanced in its two previous votes on the DATA Act, the bill before us today does contain the core elements of the two prior versions of the bill and maintains the most important step: common data standards and recipient reporting.

The DATA Act is more than just better tools to fight waste and fraud. It requires agencies to report their financial information in standard formats program by program. The DATA Act also gives policymakers in Congress and in the executive branch better information to make better decisions. More importantly, we give the American people better information to evaluate our performance.

In addition to the strong data standards and requirements for agencies to produce program-by-program information, the House-Senate agreement contains two key provisions from previous versions of the DATA Act.

First, the bill authorizes the Treasury Department to establish a cutting-edge data analysis center modeled specifically after the successful Recovery Operations Center, also known as the ROC. This is the center I spoke earlier about that was established by now-retired but still-distinguished friend of government Earl Devaney as part of the Recovery Board's stimulus transparency efforts.

This new center will build on the innovative technology and ideas of the ROC and expand their use throughout the Federal Government. The DATA Act specifically provides for the transfer of that technology still in place at the ROC.

This new Treasury Department data analysis center will be a vital tool for law enforcement agencies and the IGs in their criminal and other investigations. The new center will also serve agencies who strive to prevent improper payments.

Second, the DATA Act agreement before you today establishes a pilot program to develop consolidated reporting for recipients of Federal funds. And I want to emphasize that, Madam Speaker. Federal recipients, people who get taxpayer money, will now have a transparent and consolidated way to send the information as to how they are spending it so you and the public will know.

Hundreds of billions of Federal taxpayer dollars are spent every year by State, local, tribal governments, universities, and private institutions. These institutions end up inevitably wasting millions of taxpayer dollars complying with duplicative and complicated reporting requirements.

At the end of a 2-year pilot program where some recipients will report to a single entity in a standardized manner, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget will issue guidance to all Federal agencies on how to streamline and consolidate reporting requirements. Just like with stimulus funds, the same data standards that apply to Federal agency reporting will apply to recipient reporting.

The DATA Act will give the American people the ability to track how we spend their tax dollars. Instead of sifting through PDFs—a form of visual, nondata-based standard—posted online that only let's you see a picture of the

spending—and many different formats—you now will in fact have all Federal spending information available for bulk download in a single, machine-readable format.

That is a big mouthful, Madam Speaker, but what it really means is that both individuals and entities, large and small, will be able to create tools where, on your iPhone or Android, you will be able to ask a question and get back an answer as successfully as the programs that have previously been made available.

The DATA Act will give lawmakers and public watchdogs powerful tools to identify and root out fraud, waste, and excess spending in the government. It will put at the American people's fingertips today the kind of information that only long and arduous research could unveil.

More importantly, by simply opening up this information, we will enable journalists, academics, and even private sector businesses to use the data to create products that will deliver real value to the American people.

This is just one example:

The National Weather Service some years ago did just what we are proposing by opening up their data, making it freely available to the public some years ago. Today it supports a multibillion-dollar weather analysis industry, and every American with a smartphone or a computer can find out what the weather is and what it is forecasted to be at any location in America. That wouldn't be possible without that open data standard.

I am very proud that it was a start, but there is more to do.

The DATA Act will have the same ability to create jobs, which is why this bill is so important. It is endorsed by dozens of private sector technology companies.

New York University Business School Professor Joel Gurin wrote in a recent book that "the value of government open data is that it's a long-term, permanent resource that innovators can use for decades, developing new ideas and new companies as technology makes them possible."

That is a mouthful, but it says what we need to say, which is that this is going to create new industries that are able to leverage the information that today is not available to the American people and not available to the innovators in Silicon Valley and around America.

I ask that my colleagues join with me today in sending this bill to the President for his signature, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to rise in support of S. 994, the DATA Act. This is a landmark piece of bipartisan and bicameral legislation that will change the way the government operates.

I applaud the sponsor of S. 994, Senator MARK WARNER, who put a lot of

passion and hard work into this legislation; as did the principal sponsor here, whom you have just heard from, House Oversight Committee Chairman DARRRELL ISSA, who put considerable energy into this bill over more than one session; as well as Senate Chairman TOM CARPER of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee; and House Oversight Committee Ranking Member ELIJAH CUMMINGS, who worked very diligently to get us to the House floor today.

The DATA Act will provide the public with information about how the government is spending money, pure and simple. This will hold agencies accountable for their spending, and it will result in a more effective government.

On April 8, 2014, the Comptroller General of the United States, Gene Dodaro, testified in support of this legislation. Here is what he said: "I think the DATA Act is one of the biggest single things that could be done in order to provide more transparency on the costs of these program activities."

The Comptroller General went on to say that the DATA Act would "standardize the data"—and that is the operative word, "standardize the data"—"so that you would be able to compare data across agencies, which you can't do right now. It would also provide more consistent information and at a lower program spending level that we found to be a big obstacle in us identifying additional savings opportunities."

The DATA Act will require the Secretary of the Treasury and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to establish government-wide data standards. This will improve the quality of the data that agencies make available about their spending.

Under this bill, spending data will be available through a single Web site. The bill will require that spending data be available for each agency and each program activity in a searchable, downloadable format.

The DATA Act is a bipartisan bill across both Chambers that will improve transparency and, in turn, make government work better. I urge every Member to support this legislation.

□ 1630

I would like, again, to express my strong support for this bill and to thank Chairman ISSA for his many efforts to get it passed and through committee more than once.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, in closing, this last weekend, the Associated Press talked about the waning days of this Congress and expected to have a do-nothing Congress.

That is easy to say, but in this case, today, we are showing, on a bipartisan, bicameral basis, with our friends in the Senate, that there are major pieces of legislation that will save countless billions of dollars and provide better information to the American people and

to the watchdogs who want to root out waste, fraud, and abuse in our government.

So this is not a controversial bill because it has taken years of hard work to get it right. But, in fact, this is a major piece of legislation.

I want to close by thanking Senator CARPER, Senator COBURN, Senator PORTMAN, and Senator WARNER, the author of the bill today, in addition to Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, and of course, my ranking member, Congressman CUMMINGS.

This has been bipartisan. It is one of the many pieces of bipartisan legislation that take a long time, they hold a lot of hearings, but at the end of the day, the American people can trust that the American people's work does get done, in spite of some of the things we are unable to do. This is a major piece of legislation.

I want to thank, lastly, leadership for bringing this to the floor today in a timely fashion so that we can get it to the President's desk for signing next week.

Madam Speaker, I urge support and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BLACK). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 994.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CLARIFICATION OF RULES APPLYING TO HUMAN OCCUPANCY OF PENTHOUSES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUILDINGS

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4192) to amend the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height of buildings in the District of Columbia" to clarify the rules of the District of Columbia regarding human occupancy of penthouses above the top story of the building upon which the penthouse is placed, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4192

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CLARIFICATION OF RULES APPLYING TO HUMAN OCCUPANCY OF PENTHOUSES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUILDINGS.

(a) PERMITTING HUMAN OCCUPANCY OF PENTHOUSES WITHIN CERTAIN HEIGHT LIMIT.—The eighth paragraph of section 5 of the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height of buildings in the District of Columbia", approved June 1, 1910 (sec. 6-601.05(h), D.C. Official Code) is amended—

(1) by striking "penthouses over elevator shafts," and inserting "penthouses,"; and

(2) by striking "and no floor or compartment thereof shall be constructed or used for human occupancy above the top story of the building upon which such structures are

placed" and inserting "and, except in the case of a penthouse which is erected to a height of one story of 20 feet or less above the level of the roof, no floor or compartment thereof shall be constructed or used for human occupancy above the top story of the building upon which such structures are placed".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill hereto under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, in 1910, the Height of Buildings Act was signed into Federal law. That bill, in fact, envisioned a prevention of New York-style skyscrapers from being erected here in the Nation's Capital. That bill is every bit as important today as it was in 1910.

The District of Columbia has a unique visual requirement. We should not, cannot, and will not obstruct the Mall and the major parts of this historic city.

It is important that we maintain the skyline and the access, and we do so in every single consideration in this city. The memorials and monuments and public safety must be considered.

However, over the last two Congresses, the committee has been working on several small modifications that, really, time has said its time has come. After 100 years, the current legislation makes a small but meaningful change. Let me put it in words the American people can easily understand.

One hundred years ago, they put a limit on the height of these buildings, and then they put 20 feet beyond that limit of occupancy for water towers, coal stacks for the chimneys, and, of course, the tops of elevators. Those water towers, elevator shafts, chimneys, they were certainly pretty hideous, but they were necessary.

It is now 100 years later, and, in fact, the absence of other uses for these buildings often means that these tops of these buildings are not considered to be an aesthetically important part, and there is no funding and no source of revenue to make them better.

Under this modification to the Height Act, we allow for what have been called penthouses but, in fact, are simply industrial rooftop air conditioners and the like to be covered,

wrapped, if you will, by architecturally pleasing structures.

These structures may be occupied. They may be offices, cafeterias, or, in the case of a residential apartment complex, it could be a top apartment.

Under the legislation, they have to have a setback. The setback is roughly 1 foot per foot of height, or 20 feet of setback if they go to the full 20 feet. So these are not a monolithic increase and, in fact, a setback consistent with that 100-year-old law.

Last Congress, the committee held numerous hearings on the Height Act and listened to countless witnesses. I subsequently wrote to the National Capital Planning Commission, often called the NCPC, and the mayor's office, asking them to jointly study modifications to the Height Act and recommend any changes they saw appropriate. For those who are unaware, NCPC is the regional planning commission that includes representatives of both the Federal interests and local interests.

The Height Act study is impressive. Aside from the research work, a series of meetings were held featuring considerable input from experts and the general public alike. Afterward, the mayor's office and NCPC provided separate recommendations.

The mayor's specific recommendation: increase the height limits in downtown. The mayor also recommended that the city and NCPC work together to be able to use the city comprehensive plan as a tool to adjust height limits outside the L'Enfant city region.

This is not in today's proposal. Ultimately, only after considering these broader changes, NCPC's only recommendation from the overall plan submitted by the mayor is, in fact, the modest proposal before you today.

Let's understand: the height of buildings in this city will not change by 1 foot under this act, but the beauty of the tops of buildings and the usability will.

The revenue to the city can increase because of the value of these top floors, and, yet, we will cover up mechanical penthouses that, today, are simply elevator shafts, rooftop air conditioners, water towers and the like.

So long as that ratio of setback and the other provisions of the 100-year-old act are maintained, the city will have the ability to approve structures.

But let's understand: those structures will still go through a rigorous program before they can be approved, and they will continue to be consistent with the 1910 Height Act.

NCPC itself recommended that human occupancy be allowed in such rooftop penthouses, so long as the setback ratio was maintained and that the penthouse does not exceed one story and that no more than 20 feet of height be maintained.

Our bill does everything in the NCPC recommendation. So this bill simply gives the city a little more latitude in

allowing human occupancy in penthouses where ugly mechanical penthouses already exist and are allowed.

I would like to have gone a little further on this bill, and I am very candid. There are areas well outside the city, as most people interpret it, far up in Northeast, where there are railroad tracks and industrial buildings, and down in Southeast, an area that ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON has worked tirelessly to improve, that could have been given additional options for higher buildings because they are outside of the area of concern for the Mall and monuments.

The city is not prepared to take that authority yet, and Congress is not prepared to give authority that, in fact, its city council is not prepared to handle. That is the consensus that came from the city council in their own resolution, and we respect that if the city does not want an authority, we are not going to thrust an authority on them.

So, with respect to the Height Act, let me close by saying there will always be somebody who doesn't want a law changed, who, in fact, wants the buildings shorter. There are people who want their private home to be able to see all the way to the Mall. I would love to own one of those homes, quite frankly.

A few feet away from here I would like to be able to walk out onto the Speaker's deck, his balcony. I would like to be able to see the White House, but I can't because the Treasury building was built in front of it and others.

This legislation will not cause any of those shortcomings that have occurred in the past; just the opposite. It will beautify the tops of buildings if the city approves those specific projects, while maintaining the absolute limit that has been on these buildings since 1910.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 4192, and I appreciate the initiative of the chairman, Chairman ISSA, who has just spoken, who has always observed the self-government rights of the District of Columbia, and puts forward this bill in the same spirit of home rule.

This legislation will amend the Height Act of 1910, which limits the height of all building in the District of Columbia. The District is prohibited, under the Home Rule Act, from permitting any structure anywhere in the city in excess of the height limitations contained in the Height Act.

The current law permits structures above the top story of buildings, including so-called penthouses, to exceed the height limitations, but no human occupancy is permitted in mechanical penthouses, and it gives the District the authority to set the maximum height for such structures.

Currently, the structures have a height limit of 18.6 feet. The legislation

will allow human occupancy of these penthouses. In addition, the legislation will mandate a 20-foot maximum height, one story, and a 1 to 1 setback for penthouses. The absolute height of any penthouse used for human occupancy will be 20 feet.

I thank Chairman ISSA for examining the Height Act when he saw that it had received little congressional oversight in the century of its existence.

I supported Chairman ISSA's request that the District of Columbia and the National Capital Planning Commission conduct a joint study of the Height Act because more than 100 years had passed since the heights of D.C. buildings were systematically discussed in the Halls of Congress.

The District and the NCPD came to different conclusions as to whether or how the Height Act should be amended, but agreed with respect to removing the prohibition on human occupancy of penthouses, and setting a maximum height of 20 feet, or one story, for penthouses.

The mayor and D.C. Council expressed divergent views, but I encouraged them to work together to find common ground. I am pleased that the mayor and council chairman reached an agreement with regard to penthouses, and that agreement, in essence, is before the Congress today.

Under today's bill, the city, through its local zoning process, will have the home rule ability to permit human occupancy of penthouses if it would desire. However, this bill is not a mandate directing the city to make any changes to penthouses or to its existing comprehensive plan, or local zoning laws, more generally.

Again, I would like to thank Chairman ISSA for working to give the District of Columbia more authority. I also deeply appreciate the chairman's work in so many other ways, for budget autonomy, and his strong support on many occasions for home rule, which he has raised as a factor in connection with the Height Act as well.

I support the passage of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1645

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I thank both of my colleagues. I am extremely pleased with the sensitivity that is expressed for the people of Washington, D.C., because that is what we should have here.

This is an amendment to the bill regarding the height of Washington, D.C., buildings that passed in 1910, as changing the height restrictions that were put in place in 1899; and as my colleague from the District of Columbia had pointed out, this really hasn't been discussed in detail in over 100 years.

I recently had someone here in Washington tell me that: Gee, as property

gets so valuable here in Washington, you are going to see, at first, exceptions made to the height restrictions, then soon followed by a lifting of those restrictions because the money will be just too much for either party to turn down.

I am so grateful that the height is not being changed, as the chairman said, by one inch; but I am very concerned about beginning to make these exceptions for residence levels, even though "residence" is the change, basically, in essence, and I have looked at the change. I have reviewed the prior law.

But, Madam Speaker, I am concerned that this is the camel's nose going under the tent. You are beginning to put residences above the height that was previously allowed. It may dress some up, it may change some in ways that we are not crazy about, but I am just concerned about changing the height restrictions, even with these exceptions, after 114 years of being in existence.

So as a result, I thank the chairman and my friend from the District of Columbia, like I say, for their sensitivity, but I like the height restriction because of the emphasis that continues to be pushed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ISSA. I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank the gentleman from California.

Madam Speaker, I am concerned about beginning the exceptions that may move in a direction that we don't wish to have. The chairman mentioned that no one is granting that kind of authority, and nobody is seeking it, yet; and I want us to stop it before we have to get to that "yet."

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I just want to thank the gentleman for speaking in favor of the bill.

I understand his concern. I do want to indicate that no exception is really being made in this bill. The height can go no higher than it can go right now, and somebody in the District of Columbia can't make an exception because the Congress of the United States controls heights still under this bill.

Of course, we have our local zoning laws in the District, so there are many, many parts of the District where you can't begin to go as high as the Height Act.

I am a third-generation Washingtonian, and I must say that I adore the residential quality of this city, which is essentially built on the notion of private homes and not large-scale apartments. The city really did not want to dislodge that, and that has not occurred here.

There may still be some disagreement among residents, but I do know that when the council, which expressed some real disquiet at any change, has finally been able to come to an agreement, that there is not enough of a change here to warrant dissent within

the city and had come to an agreement that—and when, in addition, those who have been most adamant about maintaining the Height Act, including the organization which has been the real guardian of the Height Act, the Committee of 100, says it has no objection to this compromise, I think we have finally reached a compromise of the kind that we would like to see more often occur right here in the House of Representatives.

And with that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, I want to urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4192, and I want to close by reminding people that this is, in fact, the best vetted piece of legislation for Congress to pass in cooperation with the city in my tenure.

Thirteen D.C. city councilmen signed on to a sense of council-introduced resolution in November that stated: The Height Act should not be amended at this time.

All 13 now support this modest recommendation, and I understand the additional member also would. I am glad that the city council is seeing this modest reform as in their favor—their benefit to enhancing the beauty of those buildings, those few buildings that reach the maximum of the Height Act.

In closing, I think it is important that we echo what Delegate NORTON just said. The vast majority of homes and buildings in the District of Columbia are far lower than the Height Act. In fact, it is a relatively small part of what some people sometimes call K Street and some other corridors, where the infrastructure of the city has pressed to occupy more densely.

My hope is, by maintaining the height, the total occupancy, these penthouses will enhance that property, in many cases, with cafeteria or public access areas while still continuing to induce people to make reasonable changes in outlying areas if, in fact, additional capacity is needed either for residents of this city or, in fact, the thriving businesses of this city.

Madam Speaker, we seldom come to you with a 100-year-old bill that hasn't been dusted off. We come to you today with a 104-year-old bill, which has not been dusted off and not for a lack of a reason.

The water towers of 1910 are gone. It is time for us to use this space to maintain a view that is unmarred by highrises, but is, in fact, enhanced by the architectural creation, invention, and ingenuity of the architects who work and strive to make the buildings of Washington, D.C., pleasant and functional.

With that, I urge passage and yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules

and pass the bill, H.R. 4192, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GOVERNMENT REPORTS ELIMINATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4194) to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4194

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Government Reports Elimination Act of 2014”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sec. 101. Reports eliminated.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Sec. 201. Reports eliminated.

TITLE III—CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Sec. 301. Reports eliminated.

TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Sec. 401. Reports eliminated.

TITLE V—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sec. 501. Report on Impact Aid construction justifying discretionary grant awards eliminated.

TITLE VI—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Sec. 601. Reports eliminated.

TITLE VII—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Sec. 701. Great Lakes management comprehensive report eliminated.

TITLE VIII—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Sec. 801. Report relating to waiver of certain sanctions against North Korea eliminated.

TITLE IX—GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

Sec. 901. Reports eliminated.

Sec. 902. Reports modified.

TITLE X—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Sec. 1001. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XI—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 1101. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XII—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Sec. 1201. Royalties In-Kind Report eliminated.

TITLE XIII—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sec. 1301. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XIV—OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Sec. 1401. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XV—DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Sec. 1501. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XVI—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Sec. 1601. Reports eliminated.

Sec. 1602. Reports modified.

TITLE XVII—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Sec. 1701. Reports eliminated.

TITLE XVIII—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Sec. 1801. Reports eliminated.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SEC. 101. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) INFORMATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES ON COMMODITY PROMOTION PROGRAMS.—Section 501 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7401) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d); and

(2) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

(b) UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES REPORT AND RELATED MEETING.—Section 108 of the Act of August 28, 1954 (commonly known as the Agricultural Act of 1954; 7 U.S.C. 1748) is repealed.

(c) FARMLAND PROTECTION POLICY ACT ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 1546 of the Agriculture and Food Act of 1981 (7 U.S.C. 4207) is repealed.

(d) PEANUT BASE ACRES DATA COLLECTION AND PUBLICATION.—Section 1302(d) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8752(d)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(e) OTHER BASE ACRES DATA COLLECTION AND PUBLICATION.—Section 1101(d) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 8711(d)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(f) BEGINNING FARMER AND RANCHER INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS PILOT PROGRAM REPORT.—Section 333B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1983b) is amended by striking subsection (e) and redesignating subsections (f) through (h) as subsections (e) through (g), respectively.

(g) RURAL BROADBAND ACCESS PROGRAM REPORT.—Section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(1)(B), by striking “(k)” and inserting “(j)”; and

(2) by striking subsection (j) and redesignating subsections (k) and (l) as subsections (j) and (k), respectively.

(h) REPORT ON EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTEES TO EMERGING MARKETS.—Section 1542(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-624; 7 U.S.C. 5622 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “(1) EFFECT OF CREDITS.—”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2).

(i) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION QUARTERLY REPORT.—Section 13 of the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714k) is amended by striking the second sentence.

(j) EVALUATION OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM FINANCING OF LOCALLY OR REGIONALLY PRODUCED FOOD PRODUCTS.—Section 310B(g)(9)(B) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(g)(9)(B)) is amended by striking clause (iv) and redesignating clause (v) as clause (iv).

(k) UNITED STATES GRAIN STANDARDS ACT REPORTS.—Section 17B of the United States

Grain Standards Act (7 U.S.C. 87f-2) is repealed.

(1) LISTING OF AREAS RURAL IN CHARACTER.—Section 6018 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (122 Stat. 1933; Public Law 110-246) is amended—

- (1) by striking “(a) RURAL AREA.—”; and
- (2) by striking subsection (b).

(m) NOTIFICATIONS TO CONGRESS ON RELEASE OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRODUCERS OPERATING UNDER MARKETING AGREEMENTS AND ORDERS.—Section 8d(2) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (7 U.S.C. 608d(2)) is amended by striking “The Secretary shall notify the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate and the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives not later than 10 legislative days before the contemplated release under law, of the names and addresses of producers participating in such marketing agreements and orders, and shall include in such notice a statement of reasons relied upon by the Secretary in making the determination to release such names and addresses.”.

(n) PLANT PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER PREVENTION ACTION PLANS REPORTS.—Section 420(c) of the Plant Protect Act (7 U.S.C. 7721(c)) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(o) QUARTERLY EXPORT ASSISTANCE REPORTS.—Section 603 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5713) is repealed.

(p) RURAL COLLABORATIVE INVESTMENT PROGRAM.—

(1) SECRETARIAL REPORT ON REGIONAL RURAL INVESTMENT BOARDS.—Section 385C(b)(7) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd-2(b)(7)) is amended—

(A) by adding “and” at the end of subparagraph (B);

(B) by striking “; and” at the end of subparagraph (C) and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (D).

(2) REPORT BY REGIONAL RURAL INVESTMENT BOARD TO NATIONAL RURAL INVESTMENT BOARD AND THE SECRETARY.—Section 385D(a)(7) of such Act (7 U.S.C. 2009dd-3(a)(7)) is amended—

(A) by adding “and” at the end of subparagraph (C); and

(B) by striking subparagraph (D) and redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D).

(q) STATUS REPORT FOR FOOD FOR PROGRESS PROGRAM.—Subsection (j) of the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

(r) STATUS REPORT FOR FOREIGN MARKET DEVELOPMENT.—Section 702 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5722) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(s) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SPECIALTY CROPS STATUS REPORTS.—Section 3205 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 5680) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d); and

(2) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(t) SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA TIMBER REPORTS.—Section 706 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act is repealed.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SEC. 201. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) EFFORTS AND PROGRESS IN BECOMING DESIGNATED AS SEA GRANT COLLEGE OR INSTITUTE.—Section 207 of the National Sea Grant Program Act (33 U.S.C. 1126) is amended by striking subsection (e).

(b) ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION STANDARDIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.—Section 3(c) of the Enterprise Integration Act of 2001 (15 U.S.C. 278g-5 note) is repealed.

(c) ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO SEA GRANT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.—Section 208(a) of the National Sea Grant Program Act (33 U.S.C.

1127(a)) is amended by striking the fourth sentence.

(d) TIP ACTIVITIES.—Section 28(g) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278n(g)) is repealed.

(e) TIP ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT.—Section 28(k)(5) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278n(k)(5)) is repealed.

(f) NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES ACTIVITIES.—Section 212 of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention Act of 1995 (16 U.S.C. 5611) is repealed.

TITLE III—CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

SEC. 301. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) REPORTS BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES TO THE CORPORATION.—Section 182 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12642) is amended by striking subsection (b).

(b) SERVICE-LEARNING IMPACT STUDY.—The National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12655) is amended by repealing part IV of subtitle B of title I.

TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SEC. 401. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACTS.—

(1) DISPLAY OF ANNUAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR AIR SOVEREIGNTY ALERT MISSION.—Section 354 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 10 U.S.C. 221 note) is hereby repealed.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT ON RELIABILITY OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.—Section 1008 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) is amended—

(A) by striking subsections (a) and (b); and

(B) in subsection (d)(1), by striking “(b) or”.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 10.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORT ON EMERGENCY AND EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSES.—Section 127 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (d).

(2) REPORT ON ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO FOREIGN NATIONS TO ACCOUNT FOR MISSING U.S. PERSONNEL.—Section 408 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (f).

(3) INCLUSION OF NET FLOOR AREA IN REQUESTS TO BUILD MILITARY FAMILY HOUSING.—Section 2826 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by striking “(a) LOCAL COMPARABILITY.—”; and

(B) by striking subsection (b).

(c) AMENDMENT TO SMALL BUSINESS ACT COMMERCIALIZATION READINESS PROGRAM.—Section 9(y)(5) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(y)(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking “authorized to—” through “establish goals” and inserting “authorized to establish goals”; and

(3) by striking “; and” at the end and inserting a period.

TITLE V—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

SEC. 501. REPORT ON IMPACT AID CONSTRUCTION JUSTIFYING DISCRETIONARY GRANT AWARDS ELIMINATED.

Section 8007(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7707) is amended by striking paragraph (7).

TITLE VI—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

SEC. 601. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM.—Section 983(d) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16323(d)) is repealed.

(b) STRATEGIC UNCONVENTIONAL FUELS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—Section 369(i)(3) of

Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15927(i)(3)) is repealed.

(c) ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS FOR INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT.—Section 342(a)(6)(C)(v) of Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6313(a)(6)(C)(v)) is repealed.

TITLE VII—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SEC. 701. GREAT LAKES MANAGEMENT COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ELIMINATED.

Section 118(c)(10) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268(c)(10)) is repealed.

TITLE VIII—EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

SEC. 801. REPORT RELATING TO WAIVER OF CERTAIN SANCTIONS AGAINST NORTH KOREA ELIMINATED.

Section 1405 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2799aa-1 note) is amended by striking subsection (c).

TITLE IX—GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SEC. 901. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) EXPENDITURES OF LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—Section 1904 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6574) is repealed.

(b) USE OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS BY STATES AND LOCALITIES REPORT.—Section 901 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 191) is repealed.

(c) HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT FUNDS AUDIT.—

(1) ELIMINATION OF AUDIT.—Section 902(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15542(b)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (3); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (6) as paragraphs (3) through (5).

(2) PRESERVATION OF AUTHORITY TO RECOUP FUNDS RESULTING FROM PRIOR AUDITS.—Section 902(c) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 15542(c)) is amended by inserting after “subsection (b)” the following: “prior to the date of the enactment of the Government Reports Elimination Act of 2014”.

(d) STATE SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT INITIATIVE AUDIT AND REPORT.—Section 3011 of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5710) is amended by striking subsection (b).

(e) SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND PROGRAM AUDIT AND REPORT.—Section 4107 of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 4741 note) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(f) HOUSING ASSISTANCE COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT REPORT.—Section 6303(a) of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1490e note) is amended by striking paragraph (3).

SEC. 902. REPORTS MODIFIED.

(a) NATIONAL PREVENTION, HEALTH PROMOTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL.—Subsection (i) of section 4001 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-1) is amended by striking “The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States shall jointly conduct periodic reviews” and inserting “The Secretary shall conduct periodic reviews”.

(b) POSTCARD MANDATE.—Section 719(g)(2) of title 31, United States Code is amended—

(1) by striking the first sentence and inserting the following: “The Comptroller General shall make each list available through the public website of the Government Accountability Office.”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by inserting “of Congress” after “committee or member”.

(c) ANNUAL AUDIT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL AWARD FOUNDATION.—

(1) USE OF PRIVATE AUDITOR.—Section 107 of the Congressional Award Act (2 U.S.C. 807) is amended to read as follows:

“AUDITS

“SEC. 107. (a) CONTRACTS WITH PRIVATE AUDITOR.—The Board shall enter into a contract with an accredited private auditor to conduct an annual audit of the financial records of the Board and of any corporation established under section 106(i), and shall ensure that the auditor has access for the purpose of the audit to any books, documents, papers, and records of the Board or such corporation (or any agent of the Board or such corporation) which the auditor reasonably determines to be pertinent to the Congressional Award Program.

“(b) ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS ON AUDIT RESULTS.—Not later than May 15 of each calendar year, the Board shall submit to appropriate officers, committees, and subcommittees of Congress a report on the results of the most recent audit conducted pursuant to this section, and shall include in the report information on any such additional areas as the auditor who conducted the audit determines deserve or require evaluation.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO COMPLIANCE WITH FISCAL CONTROL AND FUND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES.—Section 104(c)(2)(A) of such Act (2 U.S.C. 804(c)(2)(A)) is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “The Comptroller General of the United States” and inserting “The accredited private auditor conducting the annual audit of the financial records of the Board pursuant to section 107(a)”;

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “the Comptroller General” and inserting “the auditor”.

(d) ANNUAL GAO REVIEW OF PROPOSED HHS RECOVERY THRESHOLD.—The third sentence of section 1862(b)(9)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y(b)(9)(B)(i)) is amended by striking “for a year” and inserting “for 2014”.

TITLE X—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SEC. 1001. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) PROHIBITION ON IMPORTATION OF PRODUCTS MADE WITH DOG OR CAT FUR.—Section 308 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1308) is amended by striking subsection (e).

(b) PORT OF ENTRY INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESSMENT STUDY AND NATIONAL LAND BORDER SECURITY PLAN.—The Border Infrastructure and Technology Modernization Act of 2007 (title VI of division E of Public Law 110-161; 6 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is amended by striking sections 603 and 604.

(c) FEES FOR CERTAIN CUSTOMS SERVICES.—(1) REPEAL.—Section 13031 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-272; 19 U.S.C. 58c) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(9), by striking subparagraph (C) and redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (C); and

(B) in subsection (f)—
(i) in paragraph (3)—
(I) by striking subparagraph (D); and
(II) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (D);

(ii) by striking paragraph (4); and
(iii) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subsection (f) of such section is further amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking “paragraph (5)” and inserting “paragraph (4)”;

(B) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “paragraph (5)” and inserting “paragraph (4)”.

(d) MODERNIZATION OF NATIONAL DISTRESS AND RESPONSE SYSTEM.—Section 346 of the (Public Law 107-295) Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002 (14 U.S.C. 88 note), and the item relating to such section in the table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act, are repealed.

TITLE XI—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 1101. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPENDING PLAN FOR TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVE.—The first sentence of the second paragraph under the heading “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Management and Administration—Transformation Initiative” in title II of division A of Public Law 111-117 (123 Stat. 3093), as amended by section 2259 of title XII of division B of Public Law 112-10 (125 Stat. 197), is amended by striking “; *Provided, That*” and all that follows through “Government Accountability Office”.

(b) SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTS REPORT.—Section 218 of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012 (division C of Public Law 112-55; 125 Stat. 699) is repealed.

TITLE XII—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

SEC. 1201. ROYALTIES IN-KIND REPORT ELIMINATED.

Section 342(e) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15902(e)) is amended by striking subsection (e).

TITLE XIII—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SEC. 1301. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) OLDER AMERICANS ACT.—Section 515 of the Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. 3056m) is repealed.

(b) ANDEAN TRADE PREFERENCE ACT.—Section 207 of the Andean Trade Preference Act (19 U.S.C. 3205) is repealed.

TITLE XIV—OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

SEC. 1401. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) TREATY ON CONVENTIONAL ARMED FORCES IN EUROPE.—Section 2(5)(E) of the Senate resolution advising and consenting to ratification of the Document Agreed Among the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) of November 19, 1990, adopted at Vienna May 31, 1996 (Treaty Doc. 105-5) (commonly referred to as the “CFE Flank Document”), 105th Congress, agreed to May 14, 1997, is repealed.

(b) REPORTS ON COMMERCE WITH, AND ASSISTANCE TO, CUBA FROM OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—

(1) REPEAL.—Section 108 of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (22 U.S.C. 6038) is repealed.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 108.

(c) IDENTIFICATION OF COUNTRIES OF CONCERN WITH RESPECT TO THE DIVERSION OF CERTAIN GOODS, SERVICES, AND TECHNOLOGIES TO OR THROUGH IRAN.—

(1) REPEAL.—Section 302 of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8542) is repealed.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 303(b) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 8543(b)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “a report—” and inserting “a report notifying those committees of the designation of the country.”; and

(B) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2).

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 302.

TITLE XV—DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SEC. 1501. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARD REGIONAL NON-PROLIFERATION IN SOUTH ASIA.—Section 620F of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2376) is amended by striking subsection (c).

(b) REPORT ON TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.—Section 613 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901 note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 613. TIBET NEGOTIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President and the Secretary should encourage the Government of the People’s Republic of China to enter into a dialogue with the Dalai Lama or his representatives leading to a negotiated agreement on Tibet.

“(b) COMPLIANCE.—After such an agreement is reached, the President and the Secretary should work to ensure compliance with the agreement.”.

TITLE XVI—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 1601. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) REPORTS OF AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES COMMITTEE.—Section 106(p)(7) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (H); and
(2) by redesignating subparagraph (I) as subparagraph (H).

(b) ANNUAL SUMMARIES OF AIRPORT FINANCIAL REPORTS.—Section 47107(k) of title 49, United States Code, is repealed.

(c) ANNUAL REPORT ON PIPELINE SAFETY INFORMATION GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES.—Section 60130 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and
(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c).

(d) ANNUAL REPORT ON PILOT PROGRAM FOR INNOVATIVE FINANCING OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT.—Section 182 of the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (117 Stat. 2515; 49 U.S.C. 44502 note) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (e); and
(2) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (e).

(e) REPORTS ON JUSTIFICATIONS FOR AIR DEFENSE IDENTIFICATION ZONES.—Section 602 of the Vision 100—Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act (117 Stat. 2563), and the item relating to that section in the table of contents contained in section 1(b) of that Act, are repealed.

(f) ANNUAL REPORT ON STANDARDS FOR AIRCRAFT AND AIRCRAFT ENGINES TO REDUCE NOISE LEVELS.—Section 726 of the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century (114 Stat. 167; 49 U.S.C. 47508 note) is amended by striking subsection (c).

SEC. 1602. REPORTS MODIFIED.

Section 1138(a) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking “at least annually, but may be conducted”.

TITLE XVII—DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

SEC. 1701. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT ON THE NORTH AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.—Section 2 of Public Law 108-215 is repealed.

(b) REPORT ON VOTING ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS LOAN PROPOSALS.—Section 701 of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262d) is amended by striking subsection (c) and redesignating subsection (d) through subsection (g) (as added by section 501(g) of Public Law 96-259) as subsections (c) through (f), respectively.

(c) REPORT ON NEW IMF ARRANGEMENTS REGARDING RATES AND MATURITIES.—Section 605 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1999 (112 Stat. 2681-223), as enacted into law by section 101(d) of division A of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277), is amended by striking subsection (d).

(d) REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT MODIFICATIONS.—The Government Securities Act

Amendments of 1993 (Public Law 103-202) is amended—

- (1) by striking section 203; and
- (2) in the table of contents for such Act, by striking the item relating to section 203.

TITLE XVIII—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SEC. 1801. REPORTS ELIMINATED.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT ON ACTIVITIES AND PROPOSALS INVOLVING CONTRACTING FOR PERFORMANCE BY CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL OF WORK PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.—Section 8110 of such title is amended—

- (1) by striking subsection (c); and
- (2) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), and (f) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respectively.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON PROCUREMENT OF HEALTH-CARE ITEMS.—Section 8125 of such title is amended—

- (1) by striking subsection (d); and
- (2) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (d).

(c) ANNUAL REPORT ON STAFFING FOR NURSES AND NURSE ANAESTHETISTS AT DEPARTMENT FACILITIES.—Section 7451(e) of such title is amended—

- (1) by striking paragraph (5); and
- (2) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5).

(d) ANNUAL REPORT ON USE OF AUTHORITIES TO ENHANCE RETENTION OF EXPERIENCED NURSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 73 of such title is amended by striking section 7324.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by striking the item relating to section 7324.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ISSA. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4194, the Government Reports Elimination Act of 2014. The Government Reports Elimination Act is part of the committee's efforts to reduce waste and duplication in the Federal Government.

It eliminates 69 unnecessary agency reports to Congress and eliminates or streamlines 10 required GAO, Government Accountability Office, mandates.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that H.R. 4194 will save several million dollars. That doesn't sound like a lot in the Federal budget, but think of the key people who have to prepare those reports. The people that are most knowledgeable of what is going on are often the people taken away for these reports.

These reports were vetted by sending out a questionnaire to every chairman and every ranking member in the House, asking them do they still need these reports. After going through multiple rounds, we determined that these were the reports that no Member of Congress or no committee any longer needed.

This is a modest reform. I would have liked to have done a few more. In fact, I would like to make sure that, in every Congress, every 2 years, a similar bill be brought, asking are those reports still needed and eliminating the ones that are not.

I am assured that if we do so, as we create 69 new reports every year, we can eliminate 69 old reports, saving millions of dollars, but more importantly, freeing up the most valuable people often in the executive branch that must participate in the preparation of these.

The GPRA Modernization Act of 2010 directs agencies and the OMB to work together to identify duplicative and outdated reports to Congress. In January of 2013, the Office of Management and Budget posted that list on their Web site, www.performance.gov, and these reports come from that list.

Madam Speaker, I think enough has been said. The American people want us not to waste their money. Congress is determined that we should eliminate unnecessary reports. The Office of Management and Budget has produced a list. We have culled through that list, worked with all the chairmen, and today give you this list of savings.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, I rise in support of this important legislation. I am pleased to join my colleagues and Chairman ISSA today in support of H.R. 4194, the Government Reports Elimination Act, as amended.

Congress often requires reports from executive branch agencies, and these reports can be a valuable tool to scrutinize performance and assess agency goals. However, with the passage of time, reporting requirements can become outdated and unnecessary.

Congress and the executive branch recognized in the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act of 2010 that improved coordination across the Federal Government benefits the taxpayer and government alike.

Pursuant to that act, the Office of Management and Budget publishes a list of plans or reports that are produced by the executive branch pursuant to congressional mandate. The act requires the administration to identify potentially outdated or duplicative plans and reports and provide views for their elimination.

In January 2013, the Office of Management and Budget produced a list that identified over 300 congression-

ally-mandated plans and reports as potentially outdated or duplicative. Majority and minority staffs of our committee worked together to identify specific reports that are currently produced, but should be eliminated.

H.R. 4194 would eliminate the statutory requirements to prepare reports that are produced by 18 Federal agencies. Implementing H.R. 4194 would reduce the administrative costs to these agencies by reducing the number of reports that must be prepared and printed.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that implementing the bill reduces the costs that are subject to appropriation by about \$1 million over the next 5 years. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private sector mandates and would impose no costs on State, local, and tribal governments.

H.R. 4194 provides for greater efficiency for a more effective Federal Government with the elimination of duplicative or unnecessary reports.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I am pleased to yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1700

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to support the passage of H.R. 4194, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4194, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS STUDY

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 298) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to evaluate the significance of the Mill Springs Battlefield located in Pulaski and Wayne Counties, Kentucky, and the feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 298

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BATTLE OF MILL SPRINGS STUDY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds as follows:

(1) In 1994, the Mills Springs Battlefield in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in Kentucky was designated as a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior.

(2) The Battle of Mill Springs was the first significant Union victory in the western theater of the Civil War.

(3) The outcome of the Battle of Mill Springs, along with Union victories at Fort Henry and

Fort Donelson paved the way for a major battle at Shiloh, Tennessee.

(4) In 1991, the National Park Service placed the Mill Springs Battlefield on a list of endangered battlefields, noting the impact of this battle to the course of the Civil War.

(5) In 1992, the Mill Springs Battlefield Association formed, and utilizing Federal, State, and local support has managed to preserve important tracts of the battlefield, construct an interactive visitor center, and educate the public about this historic event.

(6) There is strong community interest in incorporating the Mill Springs Battlefield into the National Park Service.

(7) The Mill Springs Battlefield Association has expressed its desire to give the preserved battlefield as a gift to the United States.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act:

(1) *MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD*.—The term “Mill Springs Battlefield” means the area encompassed by the National Historic Landmark designations relating to the 1862 Battle of Mill Springs located in the counties of Pulaski and Wayne in Kentucky.

(2) *SECRETARY*.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(c) *STUDY*.—Not later than 3 years from the date funds are made available, the Secretary shall conduct a special resource study to evaluate the significance of the Mill Springs Battlefield in Kentucky, and the feasibility of its inclusion in the National Park System.

(d) *CRITERIA FOR STUDY*.—The Secretary shall conduct the study authorized by this Act in accordance with 8(b) of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(b)).

(e) *CONTENT OF STUDY*.—The study shall include an analysis of the following:

(1) The significance of the Battle of Mill Springs to the outcome of the Civil War.

(2) Opportunities for public education about the Civil War in Kentucky.

(3) Operational issues that should be considered if the National Park System were to incorporate the Mill Springs Battlefield.

(4) The feasibility of administering the Mill Springs Battlefield considering its size, configuration, and other factors, to include an annual cost estimate.

(5) The economic, educational, and other impacts the inclusion of Mill Springs Battlefield into the National Park System would have on the surrounding communities in Pulaski and Wayne Counties.

(6) The effect of the designation of the Mill Springs Battlefield as a unit of the National Park System on—

(A) existing commercial and recreational activities, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, and recreational shooting, and on the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure; and

(B) the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities.

(7) The identification of any authorities, including condemnation, that will compel or permit the Secretary to influence or participate in local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal lands if the Mill Springs Battlefield is designated a unit of the National Park System.

(f) *NOTIFICATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS*.—Upon commencement of the study, owners of private property adjacent to the battlefield will be notified of the study's commencement and scope.

(g) *SUBMISSION OF REPORT*.—Upon completion of the study, the Secretary shall submit a report on the findings of the study to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman

from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. At this time, I yield whatever time he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky, Mr. HAL ROGERS.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I thank the chairman for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, we have dozens of historic sites and landmarks that demonstrate our Nation's proud history to thousands of visitors every year. I am pleased that one of these sites is the Mill Springs Battlefield, which sits in my home county of Pulaski and my birth home county of Wayne, Kentucky. The bill we have before us would give the National Park Service 3 years to complete a study on including this historic battlefield into the National Park System.

The Battle of Mill Springs is a source of great pride and interest to my constituents especially. In late 1861, Confederate forces had advanced into Kentucky on its southern border, and on January 19, 1862, they launched an attack on the Union Army camp that was stationed at Logan's Crossroads, later to be called Mill Springs. After a heavy night of marching, the Confederate troops attacked but were driven back, with their commander, Brigadier General Felix Zollicoffer, being killed in the fighting. In the confusion, the Union troops received reinforcements and were able to repel another Confederate attack, this time driving them back into Tennessee.

Although this battle did not generate the number of casualties seen at such battles as Antietam or Gettysburg, it was a critically important battle and one of the first major Union victories in the Civil War. As a border State in the conflict between the North and South, Kentucky sat at a dangerous and strategically critical crossroads, with both sides vying for control of its territory. In fact, President Lincoln has been quoted as saying, “I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky.” Victory in the Battle of Mill Springs held off the Confederate advance into Kentucky and laid the groundwork for later Union successes at Fort Donelson, in now Nashville, Tennessee, in February 1862, and at Shiloh, in April, under General Ulysses S. Grant.

Despite the importance of this battle, like many battlefields throughout the country, the site of the Battle of Mill Springs became threatened over the years by disrepair and development. In

the early 1990s, the U.S. Department of the Interior classified the site of the Battle of Mill Springs as one of the most endangered battlefields in Kentucky. It might have slipped into the pages of history with no living monument to it had it not been for a group of concerned citizens in the community who came together in 1992 out of concern that the site would be lost forever.

Today, thanks to the Mill Springs Battlefield Association, along with determination from State and local officials and the Civil War Trust and the National Parks Conservation Association, hundreds of acres of battlefield land have been diligently preserved. Through a partnership of public and private funds, the association has constructed a fantastic 10,000-square-foot Mill Springs Battlefield Visitor Center and Museum, established interpretive signage, and led driving and walking tours of the battle. Above all, they have created a vibrant tourist attraction which hosts thousands of visitors and students each year, preserving the memory of this historic battle for generations to come. Periodically, Madam Speaker, there is a reenactment of the Battle of Mill Springs with thousands of participants from all across the country.

After years of work preserving this precious historic site, the Mill Springs Battlefield Association has expressed its desire to turn the site over to the National Park Service and the people of the United States so that the joy of learning and history will be enjoyed by many more people through the years. This bill, H.R. 298, will start this process by evaluating the feasibility of adopting this important site into the Park Service. I am proud to associate myself with this effort and to have this battlefield and generous group of citizens in my district.

Madam Speaker, our Nation has been truly blessed. We have a remarkable array of natural beauty which people from all over this country and the world flock to see. Additionally, we have a great number of historical sites which have been dutifully and faithfully preserved so that new generations can appreciate what this country has been through and what their forefathers cared for. The Mill Springs Battlefield is a jewel of this group and will be an excellent addition to the National Park Service.

I am proud of the work that they have done, and I look forward to many years of this site being an inspiring and educational attraction for our Nation. So I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I thank the gentleman for yielding the time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would congratulate the gentleman from Kentucky on his eloquent description of Mill Springs and its significance in our history in the Civil War. It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1993, but the gentleman

makes an eloquent case that it should be upgraded from a National Historic Landmark to look at as a part of the National Park System.

This bill would allow the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study in anticipation of making this a part of the National Park System. And I want to congratulate the gentleman on his advocacy and thank him for his dedication to protecting and promoting this resource.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. At this time, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman, and I would like to thank the gentleman from my home State, Mr. ROGERS, for his advocacy of this important issue, and I appreciate Mr. YOUNG yielding me some time to talk about this legislation that I am proud to cosponsor, which would study the feasibility of including the historic Mill Springs Battlefield within the National Park System.

Perhaps nowhere more than the Commonwealth of Kentucky does the maxim that the Civil War “pit brother against brother” ring truer. While it never seceded, a slaveholding Kentucky had rival Union and Confederate governments and was represented by the central star of the Stars and Bars. It is no exaggeration to say that Kentucky families and communities were often split along blue and gray lines.

A border State at the nexus of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, Kentucky was of vital strategic importance to both the Union and Confederate causes. As Chairman ROGERS pointed out, President Abraham Lincoln noted, “I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky.” The loss of the Commonwealth would have been a significant blow to the cause of keeping the Union intact.

Both sides recognized this, and so in the first 2 years of the war, some of the bloodiest fighting occurred in the Commonwealth. Major hostilities in the Bluegrass State were bookended by the Union victories at Mill Springs in January 1862, which largely ended the Confederacy’s eastern Kentucky offensive, and the Battle of Perryville in October of that year, which ended the Confederacy’s hope of victory in the Kentucky Campaign.

The Battle of Mill Springs is notable not only as the first major battle and Union victory in Kentucky, but also the first battle of the Western Theater in which a Confederate general—Brigadier General Felix Kirk Zollicoffer—would be killed in action.

Inclement weather the night before the battle had slowed the Confederate infiltration of the area costing them the benefit of a surprise attack. Despite early success by Confederate troops, a Union rally in the fog and gun smoke that clouded the dense woods sowed confusion and disarray among the rebels.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. BARR. I thank the gentleman.

As the Confederate lines fell back, Brigadier General Zollicoffer was separated and mistakenly approached the 4th Kentucky Infantry and, believing them to be his own troops, was cut down.

The result of the battle of Mill Springs was a hasty retreat by Confederate forces across the Cumberland River back into Tennessee. In hindsight, it was the last opportunity for the Confederacy to gain a foothold in eastern Kentucky. For the Union Army, which had been humiliated at the Battle of First Manassas in the summer of 1861, the battle was its first major victory of the war and a needed boost to morale.

In 1991, the National Park System placed Mill Springs Battlefield on its list of the Most Endangered Battlefields. Today, thanks to the coordinated efforts of the Mill Springs Battlefield Association and several other public and private organizations, the battlefield has been largely restored and now offers walking and driving tours, as well as a 10,000-square-foot visitor center and museum.

H.R. 298 is an important step to recognize and build upon the good work of these organizations and passionate Civil War history enthusiasts from eastern Kentucky and throughout the country. While the feasibility study would only be a first step in the process, inclusion in the National Park System would help ensure that the story of Mill Springs and the battlefield itself are preserved and maintained for future generations and that the memories and sacrifices of the fallen are never forgotten.

Again, I commend Chairman ROGERS on his efforts to preserve this piece of American and Kentucky history, and I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 298.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. I have no requests for further speakers, so I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 298, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1715

NEW PHILADELPHIA, ILLINOIS, STUDY ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 930) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a spe-

cial resource study of the archeological site and surrounding land of the New Philadelphia town site in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 930

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “New Philadelphia, Illinois, Study Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Frank McWorter, an enslaved man, bought his freedom and the freedom of 15 family members by mining for crude niter in Kentucky caves and processing the mined material into saltpeter;

(2) New Philadelphia, founded in 1836 by Frank McWorter, was the first town planned and legally registered by a free African-American before the Civil War;

(3) the first railroad constructed in the area of New Philadelphia bypassed New Philadelphia, which led to the decline of New Philadelphia; and

(4) the New Philadelphia site—

(A) is a registered National Historic Landmark;

(B) is covered by farmland; and

(C) does not contain any original buildings of the town or the McWorter farm and home that are visible above ground.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STUDY AREA.—The term “Study Area” means the New Philadelphia archeological site and the surrounding land in the State of Illinois.

SEC. 4. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a special resource study of the Study Area.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the Study Area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Study Area as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the Study Area by—

(A) Federal, State, or local governmental entities; or

(B) private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with—

(A) interested Federal, State, or local governmental entities;

(B) private and nonprofit organizations; or

(C) any other interested individuals;

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives considered under paragraph (3); and

(6) determine the effect of the designation of the Study Area as a unit of the National Park System on—

(A) existing commercial and recreational activities, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and on the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure; and

(B) the effect of the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities; and

(7) identify any authorities, including condemnation, that will compel or permit the Secretary to influence or participate in local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on nonfederal land if the Study Area is designated a unit of the National Park System.

(c) *APPLICABLE LAW.*—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 8 of Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

(d) *REPORT.*—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

- (1) the results of the study; and
- (2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHOCK) who authored this bill.

Mr. SCHOCK. I want to thank the gentleman from Alaska for yielding me this time, and for his leadership on the committee to make these bills law.

Mr. Speaker, New Philadelphia, Illinois, was the first town founded and built by a freed slave, and it happened before the Civil War.

Today, this historic town in my district deserves designation as a national park, and H.R. 930 will pave the way for official recognition.

The man who founded New Philadelphia was Frank McWorter, a Kentucky slave who worked to buy his own freedom and that of his wife and 15 family members. At a time of immense cultural and political hostilities over the issue of slavery, the McWorter family and other citizens of New Philadelphia built a town where free African Americans and European settlers lived and worked side by side.

Due to their hard work and strong faith, the scourge of racial violence never gained a foothold in the town, despite the upheaval around them. Think of the significance of that. The people of New Philadelphia built the dream of Martin Luther King a full 127 years before his immortal words were spoken on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Long before the Supreme Court ordered the desegregation of American schools, these Illinoisans were teaching their children in the same classrooms, letting them play in the same parks, and drawing water from the same wells. The story of New Philadelphia is a proud heritage for central Illinois, and it deserves to be shared with all Americans.

Today, we are honored to have a direct descendant of Frank McWorter here in the gallery, Sheena Franklin. This family, this town, are examples of the best of America, and they accomplished it during the worst of our times.

I also want to especially thank members of the New Philadelphia Association, especially Charlotte King, who have worked for more than a decade to document, preserve, and restore the extraordinary history of the town. It is through their efforts that this unique chapter in our history can be preserved for generations as a national park, and I look forward to continuing to work with them toward that goal.

This legislation is another step in the direction of racial justice. It is another sure stitch in the healing process for a Nation once divided so bitterly and tragically over the issue of slavery. I urge passage of H.R. 930.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from referring to occupants in the gallery.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This bill by the gentleman from Illinois, he has already eloquently described the history and the purpose. It is an extraordinary history in New Philadelphia, and it certainly deserves more national recognition. In this case, the gentleman's legislation, H.R. 930, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the New Philadelphia archaeological site and the surrounding land. It would require the Secretary to evaluate the national significance of the study area and determine the feasibility of designating the study area as a unit of the national park system. Therefore, we support this legislation.

I thank the majority and the gentleman from Illinois for bringing this up, and urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 930, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HUNA TLINGIT TRADITIONAL GULL EGG USE ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3110) to allow for the harvest of gull eggs by the Huna Tlingit people within Glacier Bay National Park in the State of Alaska, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3110

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Huna Tlingit Traditional Gull Egg Use Act".

SEC. 2. LIMITED AUTHORIZATION FOR COLLECTION OF GULL EGGS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") may allow the collection by members of the Hoonah Indian Association of the eggs of glaucous-winged gulls (*Laurus glaucescens*) within Glacier Bay National Park (referred to in this Act as the "Park") not more frequently than twice each calendar year at up to 5 locations within the Park, subject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(b) *APPLICABLE LAW.*—For the purposes of sections 203 and 816 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 410hh–2, 3126), the collection of eggs of glaucous-winged gulls within the Park in accordance with subsection (a) shall be considered to be a use specifically permitted by that Act.

(c) *HARVEST PLAN.*—The Secretary shall establish schedules, locations, and any additional terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be necessary for the harvesting of eggs of glaucous-winged gulls in the Park, based on an annual harvest plan to be prepared by the Secretary and the Hoonah Indian Association.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3110 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to permit members of Hoonah Indian Association to harvest sea gull eggs in portions of Glacier Bay National Park, subject to terms and conditions the Secretary deems necessary.

This traditional Native subsistence harvest had been conducted long before the establishment by Congress of the national park, where the practice was subsequently forbidden by law.

In 1980, Congress passed the Alaska Lands Act, which, among other things, provided for the subsistence use of natural resources on public lands in Alaska by rural residents. The traditional harvest of sea gull eggs in Glacier Bay National Park, however, remained off limits.

A study conducted by the National Park Service determined the local Native people should be able to resume their harvest of sea gull eggs at specific locations in the park. Accordingly, I introduced H.R. 3110 to authorize the Hoonah Indian Association and

the Secretary of the Interior to develop a plan for the traditional Native collection of certain gull eggs.

Under H.R. 3110, the Hoonah Indians may harvest the eggs not more frequently than twice each calendar year at up to five locations within the park, subject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be necessary.

On February 5, 2014, the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs of the Committee on Natural Resources held a hearing on H.R. 3110 where the National Park Service testified in support of this bill. On February 27, the Natural Resources Committee ordered the bill reported by unanimous consent.

This bill allows a group of Natives in Alaska to resume an important cultural tradition and to pass it on to future generations. I urge the House to pass the bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The collection and the consumption of gull eggs is an integral part of the culture of the Tlingit people of southeast Alaska. Eggs were gathered at rookeries long before Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve were ever established.

The provisions of this bill are in accord with the recommendations of a study mandated by Congress on the issue, and the bill is widely supported throughout the environmental and conservation communities, as well as the Alaska Native community. The harvesting of gull eggs would only have a minor impact on the gulls, but the cultural benefits that would be realized by the Native community would be great.

I applaud the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) for his leadership on this issue, and I ask my colleagues to stand with him in support of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and so I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3110, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NORTH TEXAS INVASIVE SPECIES BARRIER ACT OF 2014

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4032) to exempt from Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 certain water transfers by the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4032

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “North Texas Invasive Species Barrier Act of 2014”.

SEC. 2. COMPLIANCE WITH LACEY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1981.

Section 5 of Public Law 112–237 (126 Stat. 1629) is amended by inserting after “zebra mussels” the following: “and other fish, wildlife, and plants present in Lake Texoma that are prohibited under section 3 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 3372) or under section 42 of title 18, United States Code”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL), the author of the bill.

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4032, the North Texas Invasive Species Barrier Act of 2014. This bill is a prime example of how both sides of the aisle can work together for the good of our citizens.

As we know, water is our most vital resource and one of our primary needs, and I am grateful for Congressmen SAM JOHNSON and PETE SESSIONS for their sponsorship of this bill to enhance water resources for the people of north Texas. I also would like to thank Chairman HASTINGS of the Natural Resources Committee and committee staff for their work on this measure and for bringing this bill to the floor today, and I thank the gentleman from Alaska.

Many lakes across America have been infested with various invasive species. In the State of Texas, our lakes have been infested with zebra mussels. I am sure many of you have seen these in your States. They started in New York and have worked their way down to Texas lakes.

In December 2012, the House and Senate were successful in passing the North Texas Zebra Mussel Barrier Act, which became public law. This law permits the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority to pump water from Lake Texoma into the Wylie, Texas, water treatment plant, where the water will be cleaned of zebra mussels without being in violation of the Lacey Act.

It is safe to say that wherever zebra mussels are found, their partner in

crime—quagga mussels—are more than likely to be found as well. Today’s bill, H.R. 4032, expands the exemption from zebra mussels to all aquatic invasive species and plants, and will enable the North Texas Municipal Water District to do its job. It does not encourage extra pumping that would harm Lake Texoma’s current low water levels. Such action will better serve more than 1.5 million north Texans in a manner that provides safe water and much-needed jobs.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation that provides safe and clean water to north Texans.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4032, the North Texas Invasive Species Barrier Act, provides a very specific and necessary exemption to the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981.

The bill would allow the North Texas Municipal Water District and the Greater Texoma Utility Authority to transport water that contains potentially invasive species from the Oklahoma side of Lake Texoma into Texas. However, all water would be kept in closed conveyance systems and would be fully treated, with all zebra mussels, quagga mussels, and other potentially harmful aquatic life being fully removed before being released into any water body.

□ 1730

Two years ago, we passed legislation that allowed the water district to pump water containing zebra mussel larvae from Lake Texoma, but now, quagga mussels have emerged as a threat there as well.

These species are the bane of many a power plant and municipal water plant operator. Hundreds of millions will be spent in the near future to deal with these problems in intake and outflow pipes and other infrastructure.

They also harm our fisheries by crowding out native species and taking their food. They are driving out our native mussels toward extinction. The Lacey Act is vital to our Nation’s interests because it prevents—or hopefully prevents the spread of undesirable, injurious species like zebra and quagga mussels. A strong Lacey Act is vital to our economy and our environment.

That said, Texas needs access to this water. The aforementioned entities have a comprehensive plan for ensuring that these water transfers do not cause invasive species to spread.

For those reasons, we will support H.R. 4032; but we need to remember that this bill, which was put forward as a remedy to a very difficult and a very unique situation, is not a precedent for broad-spread exemptions to the Lacey Act.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, at this time, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS).

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Alaska, the former chairman of the committee.

I also want to thank the gentleman RALPH HALL and the gentleman SAM JOHNSON, also from north Texas, that joined with me in this important bill.

I want to thank my friends on the Democratic side, in particular Mr. DEFAZIO, for his not only effort and understanding, but an effort in making sure that water resources all across this country, the needs of the people, are understood.

Mr. Speaker, we are under increased problems all across this country, distressed because of the lack of water. We have lots of areas of the country that are undergoing tremendous changes, and that means that local people have to make accommodations; but that also means that, many times, they have to work with the Federal Government, in this case, through the U.S. Corps of Engineers.

I would like to also thank the U.S. Corps of Engineers and the North Texas Municipal Water District for their hard work on this important issue. The opportunity for us to resolve this issue means that 1.5 million north Texans who need to make sure that they have adequate, safe, and good water resources, that we can continue a plan in north Texas that we agreed to. We agree this is the right thing to do.

We also agree that we are after the good Lord to help us out with some rain; but in the meantime, the Lord also says those that help themselves, that that is the right way to do it.

We are trying to work together. Today, as Mr. HALL has said, it is an opportunity to see Republicans and Democrats, those people in Washington who have come to represent the American people, many of us just for our own district, but all of us working together can work to resolve differences and problems that sometimes occur back home for the benefit of so many other people.

Today, I want to thank the chairman of the committee, DOC HASTINGS, for carefully reviewing, understanding, looking at what we are trying to do, and making sure that, if we showed up with a bill that had been well vetted back home where we had agreement, where we knew what we were talking about and tried to make it as narrow as was necessary, but large enough to handle the issue, that we could move forward with this.

This is the kind of leadership in Washington, D.C., quite honestly, that we need, where we are challenged back home appropriately, where we have to bring our ideas to Washington, where we have to, in essence, think with each other, and then come up with a good plan. This is true of not just Republicans and Democrats in this instance, but also true of the Corps of Engineers.

I want to thank the administration for their help in this effort. Many times, people can jump in the way of a great idea to help people. In this case, it didn't happen.

I am in full support of H.R. 4032 as it stands tonight. Many people in north

Texas will perhaps not even know what we are doing, but this will be a sigh of relief for those who do know what we are doing this week and head into the very, very difficult summer months. This way, people can plan forward and do the right thing.

I want to thank Mr. YOUNG for not only allowing me to be on the floor today, but for him scheduling time to have a bunch of Texans come and plead their case. It is my hope this Congress, this House of Representatives, will in fact support and agree to this.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. If the gentleman will listen for a moment, big brothers have to think of little brothers. Alaska is the big brother, and Texas is the little brother.

This is a good bill. I want to compliment the Texas delegation supporting Mr. HALL especially, Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. JOHNSON.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4032, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM ACT TERMINATION DATE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4120) to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4120

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM ACT TERMINATION DATE EXTENDED.

Section 4(f) of the National Law Enforcement Museum Act (Public Law 106-492) is amended by striking "13 years" and inserting "16 years".

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this Act shall take effect as if this Act were enacted on November 8, 2013.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4120 provides a 3-year extension to allow the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund to begin construction of the National Law Enforcement Museum.

This fund has expended almost \$30 million in private funds to complete the design, obtain approvals, and move all of the utilities on the site in preparation for construction.

However, the authority to begin construction has expired, and this extension will provide the time necessary to secure adequate private funds to complete construction of the National Law Enforcement Museum.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) for his advocacy on this issue. It is critical that we recognize the sacrifice of law enforcement officers on an ongoing day-to-day basis here in the United States of America, those who have sacrificed and given their lives in the past and those who will continue to serve selflessly into the future.

In 1984, Congress authorized the Memorial Fund for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. Nine years later, Congress passed the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to establish a National Law Enforcement Museum adjacent to the existing memorial in Judiciary Square.

Raising money, even for the most meritorious of causes, in developing a design acceptable to all of the affected parties, is laborious and time consuming. Tremendous effort has been expended on this. They are making great progress, but they need a little bit more time.

This legislation brought to us by the gentleman from Maryland would extend the deadline by 3 years, which most parties feel will be adequate to see the museum to completion.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG), and my friend, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), for bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I have cosponsored this legislation with my dear friend FRANK WOLF, with whom I have served for 33 years. He will be leaving. His father was a policeman in Philadelphia, so he has a strong attachment to this bill as well.

Our bipartisan bill would enable the construction, as has been said, of the National Law Enforcement Museum to move forward.

In 2000, Congress passed the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to authorize the development of plans for

and the construction of a museum to honor the nearly 20,000 local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers who have fallen in the line of duty since 1791.

All of them, Mr. Speaker, put their lives in danger to serve their communities and their country, leaving us with an enduring example of service and sacrifice. They are a part of our domestic defense corps.

While we honor their memory each year at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in May and on the west front as well, Congress agreed that a museum would be a fitting way to tell their stories year-round, especially to the many school children who are expected to visit us every year and who will visit this museum as well.

We extended the original authorization, as has been said, in 2010, and now, after years of work to obtain permits, receive design approvals, and secure outside funding, the National Law Enforcement Officers Museum Fund is ready to break ground. The funds, of course, are private, but this is a public good and a public end.

But first it is up to Congress, therefore, to reauthorize this project through 2016, so we can see this magnificent museum completed.

In closing, let me congratulate Craig Floyd, who worked in the Congress, who has spearheaded this effort for a very long time. His leadership, his vision has made it possible for us to be on the cusp of realizing this museum's establishment.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to approve this legislation; and, again, I thank Mr. YOUNG and Mr. DEFAZIO for bringing it to the floor.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment Mr. HOYER for his work and Mr. WOLF. They testified before the committee. I asked the question about the extension as far as the length of time. They have assured me that it will be completed. I hope it will be completed. This is a memorial that should be open for the general public. Our police officers are sometimes overlooked.

I urge the passage of this legislation as quickly as possible, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4120.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PRISON SHIP MARTYRS' MONUMENT PRESERVATION ACT

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1501) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Fort Greene Park, in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, as a unit of the National Park System, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1501

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PRISON SHIP MARTYRS' MONUMENT STUDY; REPORT.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This section may be cited as the "Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument Preservation Act".

(b) *STUDY.*—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—The Secretary of the Interior shall complete a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Fort Greene Park, in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, as a unit of the National Park System.

(2) *APPLICABLE LAW.*—The study required under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 8(c) of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-5(c)).

(3) *CONTENT OF STUDY.*—The study shall include—

(A) an analysis of operational issues that should be considered if the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument were to be designated as a unit of the National Park System;

(B) an analysis of the feasibility of administering the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument, considering its size, configuration, and other factors, including an annual cost estimate;

(C) an analysis of the economic, educational, and other impacts of the designation of the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument as a unit of the National Park System;

(D) an analysis of the effect of the designation of the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument as a unit of the National Park System on—

(i) existing commercial and recreational activities, and on the authorization, construction, operation, maintenance, or improvement of energy production and transmission infrastructure; and

(ii) the authority of State and local governments to manage those activities; and

(E) an identification of any authorities, including condemnation, that will compel or permit the Secretary of the Interior to influence or participate in local land use decisions (such as zoning) or place restrictions on non-Federal lands if the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument is designated as a unit of the National Park System.

(c) *NOTIFICATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS.*—Upon commencement of the study, owners of private property in or adjacent to the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument shall be notified of the study's commencement and scope.

(d) *REPORT.*—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall transmit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing the conclusions of the study required by subsection (b).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Alaska?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1501 authorizes the National Park Service to conduct a study of the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Brooklyn, New York, to determine its eligibility to become a unit in the National Park Service.

The Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Fort Greene Park is a memorial to the more than 11,500 American prisoners of war who died in captivity aboard 16 British prison ships during the American Revolutionary War.

The study authorized by this legislation will determine if the site meets the test of national significance and provide different Federal, local, and nongovernmental management proposals. The study is informational. Congress would still have to act on separate legislation to designate the monument as a park.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us brought by the gentleman from New York has tremendous merit. This is a chapter of history that many of us have forgotten or didn't learn in school, but the 11,500 lives that were lost aboard British prison ships while our country fought for its independence during the Revolutionary War is certainly a very, very important national and nationally significant site.

□ 1745

The site has been managed by the New York Department of Parks and Recreation, but the gentleman from New York has rightly pointed out in his advocacy that this should actually be a site that has national significance. He therefore has authored—and hopefully today we will successfully see passed—H.R. 1501, which would direct the Secretary of the Interior to complete a study within 1 year on the feasibility of designating the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument in Fort Greene Park in Brooklyn, New York, as a unit of the National Park System. I would hope that this legislation would be broadly supported.

With that, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Oregon for yielding, for his support, and for his leadership, as well as to Mr. YOUNG.

Mr. Speaker, the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument pays homage to American Revolutionary War heroes and patriots who lost their lives while fighting for our Nation's independence.

This structure was first erected in 1908 to memorialize and contain the remains of 11,500 patriots from the Revolutionary War who died while in British custody on ships anchored in the East River, immediately adjacent to Brooklyn, New York. The British maintained approximately 16 prison ships during the war, which became necessary after the limited land-based prison space reached capacity shortly after New York City fell to the British in August of 1776. These prisoners of war were housed in inhumane conditions; disease was rampant; and food and water were scarce. Each ship typically contained more than 1,000 men and boys.

More Americans died in British captivity than in all of the battles of the Revolutionary War combined. Many perished on these prison ships. The deceased represent patriots from all Thirteen Colonies and of more than a dozen nationalities. Accordingly, this is one of the only international war monuments in the world. The individuals housed on the prison ships could have obtained their freedom had they acceded to requests to join the British forces. However, very few opted to save their own lives, instead believing in the promise of America.

According to a written newspaper account of the situation:

American prisoners suffered so egregiously, in part, because the British refused to recognize them as enemy soldiers, which would have, of course, amounted to legitimizing the colonial government, and therefore denied them the basic rights ordinarily accorded to prisoners of war.

It was not until 1908 that their remains were properly memorialized in a 149-foot-tall Doric column atop a 95-foot hill in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, beneath which is the crypt.

During the Great Depression, the monument as a whole fell into disrepair due to a shortage of funds, neglect, and a lack of public interest. The monument originally had four bronze eagles mounted to the corner granite posts. After repeatedly being vandalized, these eagles were removed, never to be returned to the park again. This is emblematic of the overall treatment of the monument, treatment that continued for much of the previous century.

In 2005, as part of a \$3 million reconstruction project, which took 18 months, the condition of the monument improved somewhat. However, it is still under great threat as vandals continue to deface the property. This monument should be a place to memorialize forgotten martyrs and Revolutionary War heroes. Instead, it is now more frequently used as a skate park and as a casual recreation space.

To that end, the potential designation of the crypt and the monument as a unit of the NPS should be studied given its national significance and the ability of the NPS to protect our national treasures. The story of these brave heroes—with the atrocities they

suffered—has been described as one of the least known accounts of the American Revolution. I respectfully urge my colleagues in the House to support H.R. 1501. Preserve the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument, and help illuminate the sacrifices made by these forgotten patriots and American Revolutionary War heroes.

Again, let me thank the distinguished gentleman, the ranking member, for his support and for his leadership as well as that of Mr. YOUNG's.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1501, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 51 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WEBSTER of Florida) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4414, EXPATRIATE HEALTH COVERAGE CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2014

Mr. BURGESS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113-422) on the resolution (H. Res. 555) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4414) to clarify the treatment under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of health plans in which expatriates are the primary enrollees, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 4192, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 4120, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

CLARIFICATION OF RULES APPLYING TO HUMAN OCCUPANCY OF PENTHOUSES IN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BUILDINGS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4192) to amend the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height of buildings in the District of Columbia" to clarify the rules of the District of Columbia regarding human occupancy of penthouses above the top story of the building upon which the penthouse is placed, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 367, nays 16, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 178]

YEAS—367

Aderholt	Coble	Forbes
Amodei	Coffman	Fortenberry
Bachmann	Cohen	Foster
Bachus	Cole	Fox
Barber	Collins (GA)	Frankel (FL)
Barletta	Collins (NY)	Fudge
Barr	Conaway	Gabbard
Barrow (GA)	Connolly	Galleo
Barton	Conyers	Garamendi
Bass	Cook	Garcia
Beatty	Cooper	Gardner
Becerra	Costa	Garrett
Benishek	Cotton	Gerlach
Bentivolio	Courtney	Gibbs
Bera (CA)	Cramer	Gibson
Bilirakis	Crawford	Goodlatte
Bishop (NY)	Crenshaw	Gosar
Black	Crowley	Gowdy
Blackburn	Cuellar	Granger
Blumenauer	Culberson	Graves (GA)
Bonamici	Cummings	Graves (MO)
Boustany	Daines	Green, Al
Brady (PA)	Davis (CA)	Green, Gene
Brady (TX)	Davis, Danny	Guthrie
Braley (IA)	Davis, Rodney	Hahn
Bridenstine	DeFazio	Hall
Brooks (IN)	DeGette	Hanabusa
Brown (GA)	Delaney	Hanna
Brownley (CA)	DeLauro	Harper
Buchanan	DelBene	Harris
Buchshon	Denham	Hartzler
Burgess	Dent	Hastings (FL)
Bustos	DeSantis	Heck (NV)
Byrne	DesJarlais	Heck (WA)
Calvert	Diaz-Balart	Hensarling
Camp	Dingell	Herrera Beutler
Cantor	Doggett	Higgins
Capito	Doyle	Himes
Capps	Duckworth	Holt
Capuano	Duffy	Honda
Cárdenas	Duncan (SC)	Horsford
Carney	Duncan (TN)	Hoyer
Carson (IN)	Edwards	Huelskamp
Carter	Ellmers	Huffman
Cartwright	Engel	Huizenga (MI)
Cassidy	Enyart	Hultgren
Castor (FL)	Eshoo	Hunter
Castro (TX)	Esty	Hurt
Chabot	Farenthold	Israel
Chaffetz	Farr	Issa
Chu	Fattah	Jackson Lee
Cicilline	Fincher	Jeffries
Clark (MA)	Fitzpatrick	Johnson (GA)
Clarke (NY)	Fleischmann	Johnson (OH)
Cleaver	Fleming	Johnson, E. B.
Clyburn	Flores	Johnson, Sam

Jolly
Jones
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
Latta
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mullin

Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Polis
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schweikert
Scott (VA)

Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Southernland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Turner
Valadao
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waxman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—16

Amash
Brooks (AL)
Frelinghuysen
Gohmert
Griffith (VA)
Holding

Hudson
Poe (TX)
Posey
Rooney
Sanford
Schrader

Stutzman
Upton
Weber (TX)
Whitfield

NOT VOTING—48

Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Campbell
Clay
Deutch
Ellison
Franks (AZ)
Gingrey (GA)
Grayson
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutiérrez
Hastings (WA)
Hinojosa

Jenkins
Jordan
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Labrador
Lankford
Lee (CA)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maloney,
Carolyn
Marino
McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McHenry

Miller, Gary
Owens
Pastor (AZ)
Peters (MI)
Pocan
Rahall
Richmond
Rogers (MI)
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Schwartz
Sires
Smith (TX)
Waters

□ 1857

Messrs. WHITFIELD, HUDSON, and FRELINGHUYSEN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. FLEMING and Mrs. LUMMIS changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENSION OF NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM ACT TERMINATION DATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BYRNE). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4120) to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 384, nays 0, not voting 47, as follows:

[Roll No. 179]

YEAS—384

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barietta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Benishak
Bentivoglio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy

Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle

Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy
Frankel (FL)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall

Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
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Huelskamp
Huffman
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Joyce
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
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LoBiondo
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Long
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Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Massie
Matheson
Matsui
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris
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McNerney
Meadows
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Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, George
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Miller, George
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Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
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Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
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Sinema
Slaughter
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
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Weber (TX)
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Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yarmuth
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—47

Bishop (UT)
Bridenstine
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Campbell
Clay
Deutch
Franks (AZ)
Gingrey (GA)
Grayson
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Gutiérrez
Hastings (WA)

Hinojosa
Jenkins
Jordan
Kind
King (IA)
Kingston
Labrador
Lankford
Lee (CA)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maloney,
Carolyn
Marino

McCarthy (NY)
McClintock
McHenry
Miller, Gary
Owens
Pastor (AZ)
Peters (MI)
Pocan
Rahall
Richmond
Rogers (MI)
Ruiz
Runyan

Ruppersberger
Rush

Schwartz
Sires

Smith (TX)
Waters

□ 1906

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Financial Services:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 28, 2014.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: In light of recent events, I am writing this letter to respectfully request to be removed from my position on the House Financial Services Committee. Upon a successful resolution of pending legal matters my intention is to resume said position as an active member of the committee. Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL G. GRIMM,
Member of Congress, Eleventh District
of New York.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, there were a number of votes that I missed because I was unavoidably detained for the memorial services at Fort Hood, Texas, on April 9, 2014, and for honoring President Lyndon Baines Johnson on April 10, 2014.

Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 171, the substitute amendment of Mulvaney, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 172, which involved the budget resolution on the Congressional Black Caucus budget, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 173 on the Progressive Caucus budget, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 174 on the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 175 on the Woodall of Georgia substitute budget amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall vote No. 176, the Democratic alternative for Mr. VAN HOLLEN, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote No. 177, the Republican fiscal year 2015 budget resolution of Mr. RYAN, I would have voted "no."

This concludes the votes that I missed due to the memorial at Fort Hood and the honoring of President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FAITH, GRACE, AND ACHIEVEMENT OF SISTER FRANCESCA ONLEY

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, my friend, Sister Francesca Onley, has served as president of Holy Family University for 32 years and is recognized as an outstanding and effective administrator. She led the expansion of the institution in Philadelphia while maintaining the integrity of its educational philosophy. Sister Francesca guided Holy Family to its university status. She expanded enrollment and grew the endowment fund substantially.

Sister Francesca also attained leadership positions in educational associations, including charter president of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education, the prestigious International Association of University Presidents, and the United Nations Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict Resolution and Peace.

She addressed the Commission's goal to nurture peace concepts through education by establishing outreach programs in Africa. Sister Francesca is being honored in Philadelphia for a life of faith, grace, and achievement. Her family, friends, and associates look forward to the future accomplishments of this most remarkable woman.

SAFE CLIMATE CAUCUS

(Mr. PETERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to highlight an important program for resiliency and preparedness.

America's PrepareAthon! is taking place this Wednesday as a reminder to communities across the country that while we hope for the best, we must prepare for the worst.

In California, 1,108 wildfires have been reported this year—well above the year-to-date average. In 2003 and 2007, wildfires devastated communities in the San Diego region, especially affecting the 52nd District communities of Scripps Ranch, Tierrasanta, Rancho Bernardo, and Poway and claiming 29 lives.

The PrepareAthon! is a national day to refocus our attention on emergency planning and resiliency, as well as exercises and drills that can save lives in a disaster. Last year, I introduced the bipartisan STRONG Act to equip communities, State and local governments with better information and data on preparedness so we don't reinvent the wheel with every disaster.

While there is debate in this Chamber about climate change, there isn't among scientists. We must prepare our communities, families, and businesses for the hurricanes, more powerful storms, and wildfires becoming more common and powerful every day.

MR. PUTIN: THE AGGRESSOR IN EASTERN EUROPE

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, last week I traveled with a bipartisan delegation to see firsthand the situation on the ground in "Putin's Ukraine." The Napoleon of Siberia has driven his tanks over the administration's "reset" button. He launched a blitzkrieg-style aggression, stole Crimea, and he doesn't appear to be through.

The West's timid response to Putin's aggression has failed to stop his crusade to restore the former Soviet empire. He does not fear the United States. With our response so far, why should he?

Instead of retreating, Putin has brought back his imperialistic tactics from the old Soviet playbook. The consensus on the ground is that the worst is yet to come. It is time for the administration to stand up against Putin.

We must implement sanctions that actually work where it will hurt Russia's economy the most—and start with the financial and energy sectors. We must expedite the approval of U.S. natural gas export permits so Ukraine and other European countries can buy American instead. And we can end Russia's monopoly and stranglehold over Europe when it comes to energy. We need to put the Russian bear back in the cage.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING YOM HASHOAH, HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. I rise today to recognize Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day.

All over the world, people like south Floridian David Mermelstein, who is currently in Poland on the March of the Living, are honoring the memories of all those who suffered and died.

We must also redouble our commitment to the survivors who are still with us. This past Sunday, I had the privilege of attending a Yom Hashoah ceremony at the Miami Beach Holocaust Memorial and hearing from the survivors.

It is unacceptable that billions are still owed to deserving survivors and that many insurers have made it nearly impossible for beneficiaries to collect their payments. These are men and women who suffered from unimaginable physical and emotional pain and who carry their injuries and scars with them to this day. We must do right by them.

I urge my colleagues to honor the dead as well as the living and take action to return what is due to the Holocaust survivors.

□ 1915

CONGRATULATING CLEMENTS
RANGERS

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, 1 week ago, the Clements men's soccer team left our home Sugar Land, Texas, with a dream. A few days later, they came home living their dream. They were the Texas 5A State champions.

The Rangers were underdogs in the finals. But, behind a raucous crowd, and led by Coach Todd Ericson, the Rangers crushed defending champion Coppell by a score of 3-0.

The Rangers started a new tradition. They did something no Ranger team had done before: they won State. And they gave me a new tradition, because every time they win a championship in the future, I get to rearrange the Styrofoam cups in the chain link fence that surrounds Clements High School off Elkins Drive.

Ranger pride is alive and well in Sugar Land, Texas. They are the 2014 Texas 5A State soccer champions.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
DAY

(Mr. CÁRDENAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, April 26 marked World Intellectual Property Day, and this year's theme, "Movies: A Global Passion," truly represents the importance of innovation and creativity to my district and to our entire country.

Today, this industry extends beyond Hollywood studios to the millions who are involved in the filmmaking process. Whether it is working in the industry, or watching films on the big screen, people of all ages are captivated by movie magic.

Not only does the industry bring enjoyment across the globe, it is a huge economic engine for California and the entire United States. Intellectual property protections will ensure the film industry continues to fuel the economy and keep jobs right here in the United States of America.

Today, let's celebrate the ingenuity of the film industry and continue to defend the intellectual property rights that let us all experience a little magic.

COON RAPIDS LIONS CLUB
CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Coon Rapids Lions Club for celebrating their 60th anniversary this year.

Since its inception, the Coon Rapids Lions Club has played an integral role in the community. Over the course of its history, more than 500 members have donated their time, money, and energy in supporting endeavors that benefit the local area and its residents. For instance, the Lions Club has helped youth in Coon Rapids by financially supporting school, scouting, athletic organizations, and by founding literacy programs that have provided over 110,000 books to students. They have also donated tens of thousands of dollars in scholarships to local high school and college students.

In addition, the Coon Rapids Lioness Club will also be marking their 45th anniversary of service this year as well.

Mr. Speaker, the Coon Rapids Lions and Lioness clubs are proof of how civic groups can absolutely make a difference in their community and make our community a better place. Their service deserves our thanks and praise.

SAD WEEK IN AMERICA

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, over the last week there was an unseemly, sad connection between a Supreme Court decision, the comments of Mr. Bundy, and the comments of the Los Angeles owner in the NBA. Justice Sonia Sotomayer had it right with respect to the affirmative action decision: the Court's decision perpetrated harm to African American, Hispanic, and Native American students, but it also provided a harm to Michigan's public schools when they were trying to ensure the next generation of diverse persons who could in fact be part of a new America.

Mr. Bundy's comments about government subsidies and wouldn't we be better off as slaves and picking cotton were outrageous, disgraceful, and disgusting.

Sadly, sports groups, the National Basketball Association that brings people together, the owner decided to talk about not putting Black people and others together in a public setting. America must move beyond that, and we as Members of Congress and others must stand against it and denounce it. This was a sad week. I hope we will move beyond it. I hope we will get better, and I hope we will denounce those ugly, racist, outrageous comments.

CELEBRATING SISTER JEANNE
O'LAUGHLIN'S 85TH BIRTHDAY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to wish a happy and healthy 85th birthday to Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin.

For 23 years, Sister Jeanne served as the fifth president at Barry University, and made it the fourth-largest private university in my home State of Florida. It is because of Sister Jeanne's vision and enthusiasm in taking on such a challenging responsibility that Barry University has now expanded from 16 to 55 buildings on its campus, and increased its enrollment to more than 9,000 while maintaining its goal of academic excellence.

Sister Jeanne has also been an active member of our community in civic and professional associations, and has been the recipient of several accolades related to her work. She became the first woman to be a member of both the Orange Bowl Committee and the Non-Group of Miami-Dade County. The south Florida community is truly blessed to have the benefit of Sister Jeanne's experience. Her tenacity is a beacon of hope to us all.

Happy birthday, Sister Jeanne, and many more.

CONGRATULATING UNION COLLEGE
DUTCHMEN HOCKEY TEAM

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Union College Dutchmen hockey team and congratulate its players on winning their first NCAA Division I national championship.

The Dutchmen wrapped up a dream season on April 12, defeating Minnesota by a score of 7-4 in the finals of the Frozen Four. Union College, a school of just 2,200 students from Schenectady with a stress on academic excellence, a college that doesn't even give out athletic scholarships, overcame the Big 10 giant to become national champions.

The Union Dutchmen are a reminder that it does not matter how big you are or whether the average person can pronounce the city you represent; persistence, selflessness, and willpower can achieve great things.

From Schenectady, that lights and hauls the world, to the Union hockey team that lit up the scoreboard and hauled the campus into national attention, I thank the Union hockey program, its players, their parents, head coach Rick Bennett, President Ainlay, his administration, faculty, and staff for inspiring us all with an unforgettable season.

Go, Dutchmen.

SECRETARY KERRY SHOULD NOT
BE SPEAKING FOR NATION

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, today Secretary of State Kerry accused the Jewish people of Israel of risking guilt for the crime of apartheid. He said that about Israeli Jews whom the U.N.

unanimously provided a nation after the worst genocide in history. Secretary Kerry is both ignorant of history and of the offense of apartheid. Our Secretary of State has effectively cursed Israel.

It is not Israel who sent suicide bombers against Palestinians, nor denied the right of Palestinians to work in Israel, nor advocated for completely wiping them off the map, nor taught their children in their textbooks to hate others like vermin or rats, nor named landmarks and holidays for murderers with suicide bombs, nor launched rockets every day, hoping to terrorize and kill innocent people. It is Israel that has fought against such racism and hatred.

Secretary Kerry stands for those who support the destruction of Israel. He should not be speaking for this Nation. He needs to stand down before he brings judgment upon us all.

CLIMATE CHANGE

(Mr. HONDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the state of knowledge about climate change and the impact it will have on our Nation.

Secretary of State John Kerry called climate change “the greatest challenge of our generation.” Al Gore was the first to call us to action more than 30 years ago. Even with his courageous leadership, we still have not taken the necessary actions.

The number of Americans who do not believe in climate change has increased since last year, and this is unacceptable. Our citizens need to be informed about climate change and the very real consequences it holds for all of us. This is why I introduced the Climate Change Education Act of 2014.

The Climate Change Education Act will create formal and informal education opportunities for all age groups. It will ensure people understand the complexity and seriousness of the problems we are facing. It will also give them ways to start fighting climate change. Climate change impacts every ecosystem on Earth—our oceans, forests, rivers, lakes, and everything that lives in them.

IMPORTANCE OF TRADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WENSTRUP). Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, tonight Republicans from the Ways and Means Committee, from the Agriculture Committee, and from the Rules Committee intend to speak with the American people and to you, Mr. Speaker, about the importance of trade and trade policies, the implications of growing jobs in not

just America, but also our world role where we work with other Nations to ensure that the benefits and the great things that we not only create here in the United States but also use as trading elements around the world, that each of these issues will be thoughtfully discussed and appropriately given an item of what I believe is encouragement as this United States Congress moves forward into its last few months of this second session.

We believe that trade is important. We believe that as the United States continues to grow in its respect for others, that we share intellectual property, but expect the same back from others. We trade with our partners around the globe with an expectation of not only a good product but also an even playing field as we deal with others around the world.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this important topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight because we want and need to understand more about the implications of trade, a pro-trade growth agenda, and the opportunities that lie before not just the American people but the United States House of Representatives to further understand this key and critical issue that is a part of job creation for the American people.

Expanding trade throughout the globe creates economic growth and good-paying jobs here at home. Trade works because it allows America to be globally efficient and to compete all around the globe trading our products for others. And when America competes, I believe America wins, and the world is a better place. History shows that allowing greater access to a global marketplace for American exports has always been a powerful engine for economic growth and job creation.

□ 1930

Trade provides new opportunities for businesses and spurs innovation and entrepreneurs.

Opening our market to world imports also helps increase the purchasing power of American consumers. I believe there is a balance here, and it is part of this balance and the miracle of having a pro-growth trade agreement which we Republicans wish to speak about tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I would first like to welcome a young man who sits on the Ways and Means Committee, a relatively new Member, a second term Member, from Indiana.

TODD YOUNG represents not only an opportunity for him to bring forth ideas from the heartland of America, but also his expertise as a member of

the United States military, ideas about world affairs, and most of all about jobs in America. I would defer to the gentleman at this time, Mr. YOUNG.

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, the chairman from Texas, for his leadership on this and so many other issues.

I am a passionate proponent of free trade because we have the most productive workers in the world, the most productive businesses in the world. Frankly, we need to open up new markets for our commodities, for our manufactured items, for our services. That is what this initiative is all about.

Trade promotion authority, or TPA as it is popularly known, reflects decades of debate, cooperation, and compromise between Congress and the executive branch in finding a pragmatic accommodation to the exercise of each branch’s respective constitutional authorities over trade policy.

I applaud our Ways and Means Committee Chairman CAMP, as well as Chairman SESSIONS and Chairman NUNES, for all of their hard work pushing renewal of trade promotion authority. In January, they together introduced the bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act, which updates and expands negotiation and consultation requirements.

For me, supporting trade is a no-brainer. It is important back home in Indiana, where over 8,000 companies exported from locations within the State in 2011. Eighty-five percent of these companies were small and medium-sized enterprises with fewer than 500 employees.

Indiana’s export shipments of merchandise in 2013 totaled a whopping \$34 billion. Fifty-four percent of Indiana’s exports go to countries with whom the U.S. currently has a free-trade agreement.

Trade is important for the strength of our entire country’s economy. Trade supports in total more than 38 million jobs across America. U.S. exports accounted for 14 percent of America’s gross domestic product in 2012 alone.

TPA is the only way we can successfully bring international trade negotiations to a close and unlock job creating opportunities for these U.S. exports.

The administration has laid out a bold 2014 trade agenda and is currently negotiating a regional free-trade agreement, TPP, with 11 Asia-Pacific countries; another regional trade agreement, TTIP, with 28 member countries of the European Union; and TISA, a trade and services agreement with 22 other countries.

Combined, U.S. negotiations related to the Asia-Pacific and EU agreements would open markets with nearly 1 billion consumers, covering nearly two-thirds of the global economy and 65 percent of global trade. TISA covers about 50 percent of the global economy and over 70 percent of global services trade.

As a cochair of the House TTIP Caucus, the ongoing U.S.-EU negotiations

are a particular interest to me. The transatlantic economy is the largest and most integrated in the world, comprising 50 percent of global GDP and generating approximately \$5 trillion in total commercial sales each year.

The EU and U.S. account for 30 percent of world trade, and \$2.7 billion of goods and services are traded bilaterally each day. There are a lot of numbers, but all these things speak to the power of trade and its importance, not just to my home State of Indiana, but the United States of America.

I want to further emphasize that Europe is, by far, the largest market for U.S.-outbound investment, so I continue to work hard there in conjunction with my colleagues.

By one estimate, approximately 15 million workers are employed as a result of transatlantic trade. As for my home State of Indiana, in 2012, the EU purchased goods worth \$9.1 billion or 25 percent of our overall Indiana exports.

In 2011, Hoosier services worth \$2.4 billion went to the EU. That is 32 percent of Hoosier services exports. So successful implementation of TTIP is estimated to increase Indiana exports to the EU by roughly 33 percent and could boost net employment by up to 13,780 Hoosier jobs.

Currently, major Indiana exports to the EU include pharmaceuticals, aerospace products and parts, and medical equipment and supplies.

Again, I am a strong advocate of free trade, free markets. I think that trade agreements have the opportunity to strengthen our economy by creating new global markets and supporting existing ones.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support the bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act, so we can further and hopefully finalize many of these ongoing negotiations and bring final trade agreements before Congress for approval.

I once again thank the chairman.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for discussing not only the impact in Indiana, but with the knowledge that Indiana, in fact, is really a microcosm of what this country really looks like, where you come from a strong manufacturing base, you come from a strong base of agriculture, you come from a strong base of the heartland of this country that wants and needs to be economically viable; and by growing jobs, which means that you can continue to pay for your schools, you can continue to pay for your roads and bridges, but more importantly, I believe, an innovative opportunity where you are allowed to compete around the globe with your ideas, your products, and your services.

I applaud the gentleman not only for his service to the United States military, but I applaud you for your service to the people of Indiana, as you have served us so ably during your tenure here in Congress, and a hearty congratulations. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Speaker, we continue to have Republicans who have not only a background in agriculture, in understanding the United States military, which is the world, the world we live in, how America has neighbors and partners all around the world; but also, we continue to have people who come, once again, from the heartland of this country who see firsthand how important trade is.

They come from agricultural areas, they come from areas that have strong natural resources and reserves that are, I am sure, God-given, but an opportunity for us as Americans to benefit by virtue of living in the greatest Nation in the world.

One of those people that sits on our trade team and is perhaps one of the most active and thoughtful members is a young woman from South Dakota.

Congresswoman KRISTI NOEM has just returned from a trip that she took representing the United States Congress. I would defer to the gentlewoman now for her discussion on not only TPP Japan, but also agriculture and the things which she represents so well.

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I want to thank him for the honor of being a part of this group today that is talking about TPP and the importance of trade in the region.

I did have a chance to get back this morning from a weeklong trip in Asia discussing trade and the importance of the TPP—Trans-Pacific Partnership—the European Union trade negotiations, and the ways that we can expand trade that would benefit our economy.

The first step to seeing these benefits in these agreements is renewing trade promotion authority, and then we set our goals and our priorities in these agreements. This was a big topic of conversation throughout the week as we met with leaders from Japan—including Prime Minister Abe—South Korea, and then also with the leaders in China and the People's Congress.

Time and time again, America has reaped the benefits of completed trade agreements in our country. For me, the profound impacts that we have seen in agriculture are particularly interesting.

We have seen an 18 percent increase in ag exports since we have signed the agreement with Panama. There has been a 68 percent increase in agriculture exports to Colombia since passing trade agreements with those countries.

We have also generated new business in other sectors of the economy, like manufacturing and the service industry. We have created jobs here at home, while benefiting those people across our country and economies abroad and built relationships with them that we certainly reap the benefits for when it comes to foreign policy and security issues as well.

In my home State of South Dakota, we have seen export support and create jobs and higher wages for our economy,

including our State's number one industry: agriculture.

Currently, South Dakota agriculture exports total more than \$3 billion annually, and they support over 20,000 jobs on and off the farm. It is estimated that more than one in five jobs in South Dakota depend on international trade.

Those plants that do export goods pay higher wages, they hire more people, and they do it a lot faster than those who don't. Soybeans, corn, wheat, feed grains, and livestock grown in South Dakota are already shipped to countries around the world. We can increase that by growing our access to markets through free-trade agreements.

As we are working towards trade promotion authority and negotiating the trade agreements, I think of the enormous benefits that it can have for our country. Especially as our economy struggles to recover, increasing exports in trade and markets across the Asia-Pacific and Europe is essential.

Japan is one of those countries that is included in the Trans-Pacific Partnership talks and is already one of the largest purchasers of U.S. corn and soybeans. With a good TPP agreement, we could see an increase in grain and livestock exports to Japan and the entire region. That would spark economic activity throughout our country as well.

Of course, we need to ensure that we get it right. I have asked for assurances from our U.S. trade representative that we won't close the TPP negotiations with Japan unless they agree to eliminate trade barriers to agriculture.

I appreciate that the bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act outlines trade negotiation objectives. It includes prioritizing agriculture. We need to ensure that food safety and animal and plant health measures are restrictions justified based on sound science. Ultimately, we need to ensure that we have an agreement that is fair to our agriculture producers.

When I had the opportunity to travel to Asia last week and discuss some of the ways that our country and Japan and China and others in the region can mutually benefit from trade agreements, I made it very clear how important the ag industry is in finalizing any final trade deal and some of my concerns that we already had with existing barriers.

We are making progress. We need to give those who are negotiating some of the agreements in the region the tools that they need to get this job done. This is one of the main topics I heard from leaders involved in these discussions. It is something these leaders see as key to coming to an agreement on these free-trade agreements, and it is key to agreeing on how a final deal will impact the agriculture sector.

I think a lot of folks don't realize that Japan has the number three economy in the world, behind the United

States and China. If we can finalize an agreement with them, it will set the table for TPP and also for the region on how our discussions go forward with China as well.

It will open up new opportunities in China where 1.3 billion people call home. There is no way that China can continue to feed its own people and will rely on outside sources for their proteins, for their grains, to make sure their people are well fed into the future.

In fact, some of the discussions I had with businesses and government officials was the difference between USDA beef and United States beef and South Dakota beef than what they are currently enjoying today.

As incomes have risen in China and people are making more money, they have a desire for more proteins in their diet. Today, their main source from that protein is from Australian beef; but yet, every day, they ask: When can we get USDA beef?

That is what these agreements would bring, not only open markets for us and increase our exports, but bring the Chinese people the kind of goods, food, and services that they want to enjoy as well. Fifty percent of the people in this world live in that region. It is a market that we can't ignore and that we need to prioritize into the future.

We need to take this first step, so that we can continue reaping the benefits of trade in South Dakota, in the United States, and across the world. It is imperative for job growth here at home and for prosperity for all of the countries involved.

Historically, when you have looked at free-trade agreements with other countries, the prosperity of all the countries involved have risen after those agreements have come forward and been done and completed.

I believe that as we focus on this issue, as we approve TPP, as we negotiate agreements that work for all of our countries involved and we finalize with TPA authority, we will certainly get an agreement that is good for all of our countries and beneficial to create jobs here in the United States.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this discussion tonight.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman NOEM very much for not only taking time to come here and speak with us, but in particular the references that you make to your home State, a State which you represent so proudly and which you not only carry the flag of South Dakota with you, but really on behalf of all Americans that live not just in rural areas, but who, every single day, get up and go to work to make this country stronger, to take our products and services and goods overseas to make sure that the agriculture products are clean and the very best products available.

I think one of the most interesting things that you said was really the point which we do understand, and that is the world thirsts for American-made products.

The world understands firsthand how important your industry—your agricultural industry is in South Dakota and throughout the Midwest, the very best of not only beef—I did include Texas in there, I hope—but the very best of agricultural products that go around the world and then, as you travel to see people, thirst for those products.

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Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Chairman, if I may, I would just like to expand on that a little bit because a lot of our discussions that we had with the Prime Minister of Japan and also with the leadership in China was the fact that, not only as we negotiate these trade agreements our economies are linked in creating jobs and prosperity for both of us, but then it helps our foreign policy as well. We recognize how much we need our allies in the region to come alongside us. We recognize that it sets the table for agreements that we have with China and for keeping peace throughout a region that, right now, the United States is very focused on, where we have had to be a leader of strength in order to keep peace and to keep presence. By having trade and interactions with their leadership and their people dependent upon us for their food and their protein sources, it certainly is going to be beneficial for us today, tomorrow, and long into the future if we can continue to do that and to make these trade agreements finalized.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank the gentleman.

Perhaps more important than that is that you build a friendship between groups of people who really not only share cities, where we have sister cities that grow up and are born of each other, but it is a merging together of America to make us closer with the rest of the world and then our values of not only the rule of law, of intellectual property, but also, I think, of the thing of which we know most—trade policies. A tariff is a tax, and we are reducing taxes, or tariffs, and taxes—costs—on people for products, goods and services and food. That is where I believe agricultural products from America will be king around the world.

Mrs. NOEM. Very true. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SESSIONS. I want to thank the gentlewoman for taking the time to join us tonight.

We are also joined by a young man who, from the very beginning of his time here, was described by his Governor as one of the brightest young men in Minnesota. ERIK PAULSEN is a young man who came to the United States Congress as a seasoned and experienced thoughtmaker but also as a person who understood the global implications of Minnesota, whether it be with medical products and devices that are made or whether it be with other agricultural products.

I yield at this time to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN), the

gentleman from the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. PAULSEN. I thank the chairman for yielding.

Let me just thank the chairman for his leadership not only on the Rules Committee but for leading the bipartisan free-trade caucus and leading that effort in knowing and understanding the value of trade and the value of exports.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very important issue to Members. It is good to take time on the floor to talk about this because international trade, I will tell you, is a vital part of my economy, to Minnesota's Third Congressional District. The chairman just alluded to that. Statewide in Minnesota, global trade supports almost 750,000 jobs. That is a pretty big number. It is all about exports. It is about selling where 95 percent of the world's consumers are living outside of the United States. Despite our successful economic relationships with a lot of countries around the world—we have good agreements with Korea and Colombia and Panama—there is no doubt that a lot more can be done now. It really begins with passing this bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act, which will renew and update Trade Promotion Authority.

Why is that important?

It is important so we can make headway and get forward momentum on the TPP and the TTIP negotiations. This ensures that we will accomplish several very, very important goals as a part of increasing transparency in trade negotiations and of empowering Congress, of empowering ourselves. This is why there is bipartisan support. It will specifically direct the administration to pursue congressional prerogatives through congressionally mandated negotiating objectives. It will establish very robust consultation and access to information requirements before, during, and after the negotiations so that we have a very open and transparent process with all Members of Congress and the public. More importantly, it also preserves the congressional prerogatives that are there, giving Congress the ability to vote and giving Congress the final approval to any trade agreements through procedures and providing an up-or-down vote, which is really critical. Our trading partners are certainly looking for that authority to move forward.

I want to commend the chairman, who has had a role in that legislation, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, as well as in the Senate, with bipartisan support in making sure the administration will be negotiating a deal that covers the issues that are most important in today's economy. The reason it is important, Mr. Speaker and others, is that this is not simply about focusing on tariffs. We always know that trade negotiations and agreements focus on tariffs. This is about import quotas and other non-traditional barriers to trade because the regular, traditional barriers are no

longer enough. This is about finding 21st century solutions to streamline trade and end these nontariff barriers so we can interconnect regulations across our borders and reduce foreign regulatory barriers to our exports.

You have got the Trans-Pacific Partnership, which, of course, my colleague from South Dakota spoke so eloquently on, in which we have got 11 countries participating with emerging markets. Yet the area of negotiation that I am most interested in right now is TTIP, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, with our Atlantic friends. This is one of those opportunities, I think, as cochair of the TTIP Caucus, along with Congressmen NEAL and KEATING and YOUNG, in which I want to make sure that the ongoing negotiations are going to move forward, because the transatlantic economy is our largest in the world. It is the most integrated in the world. It is 50 percent of the world's GDP. It is generating about \$5 trillion in total commercial sales each year—30 percent of global trade. Mr. Speaker, those are big numbers as well, and we have known for years that a trade agreement between the United States and the European Union is the right thing to do.

I remember, back in the summer of 2012, I authored a bipartisan letter with 50 different Members of Congress bipartisanly supporting such an agreement. Then, last year, we had the launch of the Business Coalition for Transatlantic Trade. We had a chance to meet with our Ways and Means counterparts and introduce the resolution calling for swift action on TTIP. Then as I mentioned, earlier this month, we launched that TTIP Caucus, which is the chance to move forward, I think, significantly. I will tell you what it means to Minnesota: \$4.5 billion in Minnesota goods are purchased by European countries right now; 42,200 Minnesota jobs are supported by European investment annually; if we pass TTIP, it is estimated that another 3,000 jobs are going to come on hand. This is about higher wages and a healthier economy, and that direct investment is absolutely going to be helping us right here at home.

These TTIP negotiations present a huge opportunity to tackle these nontariff barriers, as I mentioned earlier, such as regulations that will needlessly impact and increase the cost of trade between the U.S. and Europe right now. Yet everyone knows getting to this agreement is not going to be easy. There are some real differences between our economies and our continents, such as the way we approach regulation, but all indications are, it seems—and I think the chairman would agree—that the negotiators are moving full speed ahead. They want to continue to make progress towards a final agreement. The next round of negotiations is actually set to take place this next month, but we can't get there unless we pass the TPA.

Passing this Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act is going to make sure we are protecting intellectual property and that we are setting high standards. Other countries around the world are going to be forced to look at what the United States and the EU are doing, and then we can make sure that the bad actors are following our lead by setting those high standards.

So, Mr. Speaker and Mr. Chairman, I just want to commend you for hosting the time today, and I want to thank the chairman again for the opportunity to discuss trade and the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities Act as well as the importance of trade to both of our States and to the entire country. I know it is important to Minnesota and to my economy back home.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. PAULSEN, I want you to stick around for just another minute because I really want to engage you in speaking about exactly what you just said.

We know TPA is that process—Trade Promotion Authority—whereby Congress gives authority to the President of the United States. Then, once that is done, the President and the trade ambassador go to the world, and there are two different processes which have been started now: one in Asia and one, essentially, that is in Europe. These really offer America a chance to become a better and a bigger player in the world and to even get a better deal in working so that the consumers of the world get a better opportunity.

Is that really the way you see this working?

Mr. PAULSEN. Absolutely. I think you just pretty much laid it out. That is the way we do see this working. This is a win-win for the opportunities for our companies to engage in a healthier economy and to employ more people, but also for consumers to benefit on the other side.

I mean, I know that, without a doubt, South Korea, Panama, and Colombia were significant trade agreements and that they had been languishing on the sidelines for a long period of time, but with bipartisan support, we were able to pass them all. Now we have got a chance to show and prove that America is back on the playing field. We know the benefits of trade. I know, when I had a chance to visit South Korea, they spoke about the Costco in South Korea and about their interest in selling American goods and how that was the number one Costco in the world, essentially, after the free trade agreement because they want to buy American. This is about exporting. It creates more jobs at home; it keeps the innovation here at home; and it sells where the customers are.

We can't get to these agreements, though, unless we get this Trade Promotion Authority, which makes sure every Member of Congress is going to have a hand in seeing the negotiations process forward to the tune where we have not had that type of involvement among individual Members of Congress

in the past. This is very important, I think, for Congress to exercise its congressional prerogative and, at the same time, to work in partnership with the administration in moving some very important initiatives forward.

Mr. SESSIONS. In continuing our dialogue here—and I appreciate the gentleman's taking time to do this—American-made products, whether they be manufacturing, whether they be medical instruments, whether they be pharmaceuticals, all have to go through a really pretty stringent viewpoint from a perspective of regulators, who look at things that we have in our marketplace and, certainly, that travel across State lines; but once these products and services are made available and become generally available in the United States and once people learn how to use them, we create a thirst for the rest of the world to be able to buy our products.

There is a figure that we deal with—and I know the gentleman is a strong, strong supporter of our trade working group. Essentially, 38 percent of what we manufacture and build—our output here in the United States—is something that gets into a trading partnership one way or another. Almost 40 percent of the output of the United States is based one way or another off trade, of our making sure the rest of the world gets a chance to get those products also, which lowers prices in our country on a per-unit basis. Perhaps more importantly, it keeps our jobs here in the United States. That has got to be good for somebody from Minnesota.

Mr. PAULSEN. Yes.

I should just mention here that the first trade agreement that really dealt with the opportunity to negotiate on medical devices specifically was the Korea free trade agreement, which recently passed. Medical devices is kind of near and dear to my heart because it is so prevalent in Minnesota. We have one of the strongest ecosystems in the medical device community in the country—in fact, in the world. These are high-valued manufactured products that are improving lives, that are saving lives, and there is a regulatory scheme that is often surrounding it, of course, making sure these devices are approved before they move forward.

We have the opportunity, I think, now, Mr. Chairman, with some of these trade agreements that are moving forward to not only negotiate the tariffs—making sure that these manufactured products are going to be available to others around the world and also lowering costs for our consumers—but also to know that the regulatory environment can be set up in a way that, if we have oversight committees—for instance, in the EU and in the United States and if we have got a device that is on track to be approved, say, by the FDA in the United States—we can make sure that, if our oversight committees agree on the other side of the continent, on the other side of the Atlantic, that they can sign off on it. So

you save a tremendous amount of time in moving forward and in having those goods be available pretty quickly to a lot of consumers around the world, which is going to help, again, the economy; it is going to grow jobs; and it is going to help patient care around the world. That is one area in particular that Minnesota will and has benefited.

Mr. SESSIONS. In continuing our dialogue, the gentleman sits on this awesome and the most powerful committee here, the Ways and Means Committee. The committee on a regular basis hears from people in the United States who do a lot of business overseas, and one of the things which they talk about is intellectual property—the rule of law and following contracts to make sure that what you agreed to is equally agreed to by the others.

Would you mind taking just a minute to talk with us tonight about the importance of intellectual property, how the world can capture this idea and how it can, in fact, increase not only the value of products but make sure that the product which is actually bought and sold is the real product as is the company that stands behind it.

Mr. PAULSEN. This is an area, I think, in which the United States really stands out and shines. If anything, we are known for our innovation. It is really part of our DNA in terms of having a patent system that protects intellectual property, the rule of law. There are many other countries around the world that don't have those same standards, and that is where the benefit of trade agreements can help bring in high-standard agreements. It is so that other countries can be forced to follow these agreements.

Intellectual property protects the ideas. That protects the innovation. That protects the invention and the dreamers who are coming up with all of these ideas, and that is critical. There are some countries that are lagging behind. We have had frustrations, I know recently, with China by which they have targeted U.S. information technology. They have targeted renewable energy, and they have targeted biopharmaceuticals and other products for the express purpose of creating local production opportunities for Indian companies, for instance, and that is a violation of intellectual property in many respects.

Having these trade negotiations is going to ensure that we can keep that conversation moving forward and having those high standards. It is going to protect our jobs here at home for the dreamers, the thinkers, and the folks who create and innovate these new ideas and these new products.

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And so, when you have unfair and you have harmful practices that are happening in other countries—maybe it is India, maybe it is China—that is ultimately going to damage the long-term health of the economic health of both of our economies when we are having that type of a situation.

Mr. SESSIONS. I guess, lastly, what I would like to do is engage the gentleman on really a broader perspective, and that really is the idea of American exceptionalism; how we have the greatest military in the world, our United States military; men and women, working together all around the globe to make sure that really there is fairness; and that our friends and neighbors and allies have an opportunity to live in a free world, as part of this process, American exceptionalism, where we are able to go and compete anywhere with our goods and products and services and to let the world have that advantage.

Would you mind taking just a second and speaking specifically about American exceptionalism?

Mr. PAULSEN. Well, Mr. Chairman, I think what you are alluding to is that fact that America can compete and win at any level if we are on a level playing field. If the rules are even, if the rules of the game are set the same, Americans can compete and win. That is, again, going to help improve our economy, help grow jobs here at home.

In terms of American exceptionalism, there is no doubt that, when you have got a free flow of goods going across borders, it is going to help our foreign policy, it is going to help us lead from a position of strength. There is someone who famously said at one time:

If goods are not crossing borders, guns will.

Having that trade connection is very, very important. It helps us have diplomatic conversations. It helps us, as America, lead the rest of the world, showing that we are strong, we are leading out front.

Again, if you have two pretty significant trade agreement opportunities being negotiated right now, coming close to conclusion, I think we can wrap those up within the year, if we pass Trade Promotion Authority, both in the Trans-Pacific Partnership and with the TTIP negotiations going on in Europe; and that will cover, by and large, two-thirds of the economy in the world, and all the other countries will follow our lead.

This is a huge opportunity, as the chairman knows, for our companies and our economy back home.

Mr. SESSIONS. Well, I am just most impressed with not only your thoughtful consideration and your hard work, but really the things which I see that you bring to the table are words and ideas on a regular basis; that is you talk about we need to make sure that we have a stable environment where good decisions can be made, instead of in a vacuum, they can be made on the fly and, secondly, growth.

One of the things which I read on a regular basis, a young man named Peter Roff, who is with U.S. News and World Report, and he talks about how growth is important. You have to grow your economy. You have to go and continue in the hunt, so to speak, to make sure that more and more people not

only buy your products, but the next generation of those products come out also.

I want to thank the gentleman for his thoughtful leadership, where you come to the meetings and you have a real thoughtful handle on stability, making sure business knows what the rules are, making sure we build great neighbors and have good contracts and have great relationships, and then the generation and the next generation of goods and services where we can make things even better for the next generation.

I want to thank you very much for being here tonight. I know that you want to get back to the office and call your family and tell them the exciting Special Order that you were a part of tonight. I am sure your wife will be very, very excited about that, Congressman PAULSEN.

Mr. Speaker, we have had an opportunity tonight to speak, Members of Congress who come really from the heartland, we have had people come from Indiana, South Dakota, and Minnesota. Well, I am a Texan, so I guess I would call myself from the heartland of this great Nation also, at least from the center of the country.

As we talk about what we are attempting to do, I think that it is important for you to know, Mr. Speaker, that the things which you have led our Congress in trying to perform, the strong leadership of JOHN BOEHNER from the very top, in trying to say that we need to grow our economy, that part of that job creation comes as a result of trade agreement.

So that is why we are here tonight, to talk openly with Members of Congress and you, Mr. Speaker, about the need for America to understand why we must pass Trade Promotion Authority, TPA. TPA is a mechanism. That is all it is. It is a mechanism to begin the starting point whereby we give the administration, whether they be Republican or Democrat, but we give the President its marching orders in developing trade agreements.

We say to the President of the United States that we believe that growing our economy, we believe that having trade agreements, we believe that having agreements that make things so much easier and better for us not only to make sure that agricultural products, that other markets become available to us, but that we also understand that, as we engage in this, not only do we want to grow our own marketplace, but the world has an opportunity to reduce the taxes, the trade barriers that are on, many times, their products and services because American products weren't available.

Perhaps we could talk about receiving products that they have back into our country and the consumer being a winner. We have to worry about environmental protection. Here in the United States, we believe that we are trying to be responsible in what we do, not only in production manufacturing,

our day-to-day energy needs, but I think we also see where we could share many products that we have in the United States, notwithstanding we have seen many industries—energy industries selling our products and services overseas.

We talk about intellectual property. Intellectual property is not hard to understand. It is the opportunity to make sure that, if you have an agreement—and it might be because you have something that you have gotten as a patent, it could be a scientific citation that the world, when they are going to use that product, service, or that idea, that they give respect to not only making a payment, if that is required, or supporting the standard as required by rule of law.

Market access, market access is so important. It is important that we have an opportunity to make sure that the goods and services, which we present to another country as we enter their ports of entry or to their customs, that our products and services are to the highest standard that they would be, based upon a contract or an agreement as we enter those countries.

We would want to make sure that our products and services were not held at bay by that foreign nation because of some perception about our product or because they were trying to protect their home product, their home base. It opens up markets and gives us market access.

Physical goods, to make sure that we would be able to reduce tariffs on all sorts of products, whether it be clothing, whether it be manufacturing, whether it be pharmaceuticals, we need to make sure that the products which are passed are timely and fairly handled, not only in these two different types of trade agreements, but that it is a good deal for the American person who wishes to go sell, whether it be an agricultural good or a physical good that may be manufactured in this country.

Lastly, services, services which I think America has not only excelled at, but been able to make sure that we are able to promulgate effective ways of doing business, to where people can continue to have a great product and make that product even better—the second, third, and fourth generation of products that would be sold and available with the protections under intellectual property and rule of law.

Mr. Speaker, that is what we are talking about, the marketplace of the world becoming open to American goods and services and America and its consumers gaining that benefit also.

So TPA ensures that Congress promulgates itself more fully by incorporating ahead of time discussions with the administration. You heard the gentlewoman from South Dakota say that she had a discussion with the trade negotiators, and she negotiated with them and said: Here is my understanding about what I think is in America's best interest.

She didn't say what was in South Dakota's best interest. She didn't say what was in her own personal interest. She looked at a more global perspective and said: I think, in looking at this agreement, this is a piece, a part of what should be included.

And that, Mr. Speaker, is also why this administration, when they do consult with us—and Ambassador Froman does come up on the Hill on a regular basis, and we should remember that he is an active, intelligent, thoughtful man who is not just learning his job, but learning the nuances about how he protects America and goes across the world and negotiates what is in our best interest; what was a good deal for others, our trading partners, to make sure that they will want to take up the goods and services, the exchange, the ideas, the tough things that come from these trade negotiations.

So this topic is timely because these two major trade agreements are on the horizon. The world is speaking about TTIP, and it is speaking about TPP. The United States is currently negotiating TPP, the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

The discussions that take place in Asia are all about how we can form better, longer-lasting partnerships, whereby the people of their countries and the people of the United States of America better themselves, lowering taxes, getting new products and services, and having a chance to make sure that we become friends in the process.

TPP is comprehensive, and it is ambitious, and it covers really an active and growing Asia-Pacific region. As you think about it, Mr. Speaker, you will recall from your days in the United States Army and your service as a member of the military, where you went and were a part of other countries that desperately wanted and needed not only goods and services, but really the tranquility of America and what we would bring to them, the exceptionalism that we can pass on to these other people to make their life better.

It will bring together 12 countries on both sides of the Pacific Ocean in hopes of tracking and putting traditional trade barriers away and overcoming those and giving a chance to where we can make sure that the consumer becomes king.

The TPP would cover 40 percent of all global output. It would ensure that participating countries conduct business, really just as we do, in an open, thoughtful, transparent way; and we would make sure that we reduce tariffs, regulations, while respecting intellectual property.

Meanwhile—and we have heard more about this, the European Union, through TTIP, it would create a trade agreement that literally encompasses about half of the global wealth in the world.

In other words, we would be doing business with a region that is larger than the United States of America. We

would be trying to ship our goods and services and do business with half of the world's wealth, open markets that would allow them an opportunity to have American-made products.

Currently, \$2.7 billion is traded daily between the United States and the EU, which is about 30 percent of world trade. We think creating this historic opportunity would mean that we can grow that amount of trade, grow our ability here in the United States to not only have more output and employ more people, but to pay for the next generation of products and services to where they continue to meet the needs of others, not just here in the United States.

So combined, these two agreements would give American businesses and consumers, we believe, unprecedented access to global markets. That is why the Republican Party and its members are on the floor tonight, members of the Ways and Means Committee, members of the Agriculture Committee, and at least one member of the great Rules Committee.

I, as chairman, have an opportunity, as a result of the chance to have jurisdictional elements in this, to be first-hand at these discussions where we can push and talk about how important trade is and these basic agreements to empower and work with all parts of the United States government.

Obviously, our great young chairman of the Ways and Means Committee is very much up to this task, and DAVE CAMP has been leading not only America with an understanding about what is in our best interest, but how we have growth, how we move forward, and that is exactly what TPA is all about.

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So, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you that we have a plan. We have ideas which we not only well understand, but what we are trying to make sure is that we understand that 38 million jobs are supported by trade—38 million American workers—and that in 2012 our goods and services supported an extra 9.8 million jobs as a result of the growth.

These are all important ideas, Mr. Speaker. They are ideas that move our country, they move countries forward, but at the same time giving us new goods and services that on a per unit basis can drop because we are sharing them with the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I would like for you to know that Members of this United States Congress, both Republicans and Democrats, support members of the United States military, as you served your country so ably. We give thanks and pause every single day to not only the freedoms that we have, but to know that young men like you who have served our military and come back home and married and have beautiful young babies and represent a future in this country to where we believe that there is no problem bigger than a solution, but that by working together, having stability under rule of

law, intellectual property, and growth, that we can continue to lead the world through American exceptionalism and the world can have an opportunity to have that little part of America, whether it be a great steak from Texas or South Dakota or perhaps jeans manufactured somewhere here in the United States or, if lucky enough, something from the great State of Ohio that said, "Made in America."

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS: WEALTH CREATION AND THE OP- PORTUNITY GAP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to once again have this opportunity to stand on the House floor as part of the Congressional Black Caucus' Special Order hour.

For the next 60 minutes we will have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people about an issue of great significance: the growing wealth gap in America that is stratified along racial lines. It is a wealth gap that should concern all of us here in the House of Representatives, and certainly people who are concerned about the well-being of this country in its entirety should be alarmed by any segment of this country being left behind across any measure of economic status.

We will get into that throughout the duration of this CBC Special Order. Certainly, I am glad to be joined by the distinguished gentleman from Nevada, my good friend, the coanchor of this CBC Special Order, Representative HORSFORD.

I will just begin by making the observation that it has often been stated that when Wall Street catches a cold, communities of color get the flu.

We know that in 2008, when the economy collapsed and plunged us into the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, Wall Street had a high fever; and as a result, as one might expect, communities of color all across the country have been suffering from economic pneumonia. In fact, a study that was prepared by the Center for Global Policy Solutions illustrates the point that communities of color were hurt the worst by the Great Recession and have benefited the least as a result of our recovery.

And so the wealth gap, broadly defined across measures such as home

ownership and access to good-paying jobs, retirement savings, has gotten worse, exacerbated by the shock of the Great Recession and the disproportionate lack of certain communities benefitting from the recovery that has taken place. So these are some of the topics that we are going to explore during this Special Order.

I am pleased that we have been joined by a very distinguished member of the freshman class, my good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, one of the best-dressed Members of the House of Representatives. I am surprised today that I do not see him with his classic bow tie. He is the ranking member of the CBC freshman class, but I believe he arrived here a little bit earlier.

I am pleased to yield to my good friend, Representative PAYNE.

Mr. PAYNE. I would like to thank the gentleman from New York for that kind introduction.

I want to also say that we are here tonight on a very serious issue in tonight's Special Order. As so aptly put by the gentleman from New York, it feels like pneumonia in a lot of communities that we represent. I would dare to say that we might even need to call it an epidemic, because it has risen to epidemic proportions.

Mr. Speaker, this Nation is supposed to be the land of opportunity, the land of equality. We are a Nation that says that if you work hard and you do the things you are supposed to do and you do everything that we ask you to do, you too can be successful and provide a better life for you and yours. That is the promise of America.

Unfortunately, for too many in this country, this promise has been broken.

Generation after generation, millions continue to experience generational poverty in this country—and this is especially true for people of color.

Too many of the people in the district I represent in New Jersey have worked their entire lives. They have endured hard labor. They have worked two or three jobs. They have made minimum wage their entire lives. Yet they are still in poverty. The same is true for their parents before them and their grandparents and their great-grandparents.

Unfortunately, for too many people of color, the opportunities to succeed and move beyond circumstances of poverty are too little and far between. This leads to the wealth gap we see today. That wealth gap, Mr. Speaker, is unconscionable.

In the 21st century, African Americans own just 5 cents for every dollar of wealth Whites own. More than 62 percent of African American households do not have assets in a retirement account. The median income of an African American is just over \$33,000, barely above the poverty line. And African Americans are less likely to own homes, with just 44 percent of African Americans owning homes compared to 74 percent of Whites.

In New Jersey alone, the poverty rate has grown to a staggering 28 percent.

Many economists believe that this is an underestimate of the number of people falling into poverty in New Jersey.

How can those who are clawing just to get by even begin to think about creating wealth for their children or future generations? How can a single mother who works 40 or more hours a week still find herself in poverty? How does she begin to dream about saving for her children's college education or to save for a home or to plan for her retirement? The simple answer is they can't. And the racial wealth gap will continue to grow even wider.

Mr. Speaker, there is so much Congress can do to change the course of this country and to help those who are working hard and playing by the rules.

The priorities we place within our national budget determine whether we strengthen our economy and grow our middle class or whether we create a greater wealth gap between the haves and the have-nots.

This Nation has a clear choice, Mr. Speaker. The Ryan Republican budget cuts hundreds of millions of dollars in vital education investments, ends the Medicare guarantee for seniors, and it will cost this country more than 1 million jobs next year alone. And if that is not bad enough, the Ryan Republican budget asks working and middle-class Americans to pay for the thousands of dollars in tax breaks given to the wealthiest among us. That is why, in good conscience, I cannot support such a budget.

At a time when too many people are still desperately struggling to make ends meet, I know that the people in my home State of New Jersey deserve better. I believe that all Americans should demand better as well.

In contrast, the budgets that the Democrats and the Congressional Black Caucus have proposed recognize the dangerous course this country is on and work to move us forward rather than divide us deeper.

The Democratic budget builds ladders of opportunities to grow our middle class by investing in education, strengthening Social Security and Medicare, and protecting the 8 million people who, for the first time, now have access to affordable, lifesaving health care.

The proposals within the Democratic budget would restore the American promise that if you work hard, you can succeed. And not only can you succeed for yourself, but you can generate wealth and create a better life for your children and your grandchildren.

That is the choice that each Member in this Congress has to make, and it is a choice every American has to make. This choice will determine the direction of this country, not only for this generation, but for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, it is not a zero-sum game. We all can be winners with the right kind of focus and investment; and in doing so, we will strengthen this country for future generations.

As I stated and made clear, we are talking about people that have played by the rules and have worked hard, working 40 hours-plus, and yet still find themselves on the margins. We are not even talking about the hundreds of thousands of citizens that I represent that we don't even want to help with programs such as SNAP anymore.

I am not even talking about the needy in this country, Mr. Speaker. I am talking about the people that play by the rules and that are doing everything that they have been asked to do in this great Nation and still find themselves on the margin.

□ 2030

So we will continue to raise these issues. We will continue to talk to the American people and get them to understand that we cannot continue down the path that we are headed. It is bleak. It is grim. It is a total U-turn in where this country has gone.

I can only think of the statements that have been made by several individuals in this country that are distasteful and disgusting over the past several weeks. We need to keep the American Dream alive for everyone.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank my good friend and the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey for his very thoughtful and eloquent remarks and observations, and for pointing out that, while we can have disagreements, of course, here in this Chamber on matters of policy, we should all share the same objective as it relates to making sure that every American has got a robust, full, complete access to the opportunity to robustly pursue the American Dream.

As this report and the Color of Wealth Summit will illustrate later on this week, that is not necessarily the case right now in America, where you have such a disparate reality between the wealth in certain communities where the dividing line is race.

It is a wonderful thing that this great country is becoming increasingly diverse. I think our diversity is one of our great strengths.

But the reality of the situation is that if certain communities, the African American community, the Latino community, other communities of color, find themselves left behind, locked out, unable to advance economically in the numbers that they should because of barriers, institutional and historical, that have existed or been erected that we have yet to tear down, that is something that should alarm all of us because it relates to the ability of America to fulfill its promise as we move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we have been joined by a very distinguished Member of the Congress, someone who has been a champion on issues of fairness and equality and justice for all Americans, and certainly for the district that he represents in Baltimore and in Maryland.

Let me now yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. CUMMINGS. Thank you very much. I want to thank the gentleman for yielding. And I want to thank you and Mr. HORSFORD and the Congressional Black Caucus and certainly Mr. PAYNE for being here tonight.

We are, indeed, at a critical moment in our country's history. As I listened to my colleagues talk about the wealth gap, you know, a lot of times when we address these issues, people say the words, "Here they go again," almost as if to say, let's dismiss this issue; this is an issue that is limited to a limited number of people.

But the problem is, as we listen to the things that have been said here tonight, this is not a Black problem, this is not a Hispanic problem; this is an American problem.

We have to keep in mind that when you have this kind of gap, these kind of gaps, what happens is the driving force that makes our economy run is placed in a position where they cannot make the purchases that are necessary. When I say purchases, I am not talking about purchases of washing machines and dryers and curtains and things of that nature. I am talking about being able to properly educate their children.

A lot of what has been talked about here tonight is whether you can place your children in a position to do better than what you did. So what we are talking about is trying to figure out ways to close that gap so that everybody rises, as opposed to—it has been said, when you have got a wealth gap of 5 or 6 cents for Hispanics and African Americans, as compared to Whites, what that means is that, slowly but surely, you have one part of your society that simply is not participating at any reasonable level.

So the question is, how do we address those issues?

I know that the Black Caucus budget goes in that direction. But one of the things that I have concentrated on quite a bit is the whole situation with the loss of wealth with regard to property.

African Americans and Hispanics, quite often, their wealth is tied up in property. Over the past few years, we have seen a tremendous loss of that wealth.

You talked about it a little bit earlier, about how when America has a cold—is that what you said—then we have pneumonia.

So what has happened is that, disproportionately, African Americans and Hispanics have lost a lot of that wealth in property because they lost their property. And when they lost that property, they no longer had collateral to make business loans, to even get loans for their kids, or to do the things that they really wanted to do to make their lives better.

But just as significantly, they were losing jobs at the same time. So as quiet as it is kept, you have a situation where a lot of Hispanics and African Americans were trying to help their relatives.

So not only were they losing their houses, but then whatever savings they may have had, or the little extra income that they may have had that they could have put aside for a rainy day, or in an effort to create some wealth, it simply was disappearing.

Then we have had some major settlements with regard to these mortgage lenders, and the mortgage lenders have come in and basically, pretty much admitted, through these settlements, that they wronged a lot of people.

As a matter of fact, in my city, in Baltimore, there were certain mortgage companies that admitted that they were pushing people into subprime situations, that they could have done even better, and these were African Americans, by the way, and giving them all these loans, "no doc" loans and things of that nature, and the next thing you know, the people had lost all they had.

So the question now becomes, with two major settlements, what did they get?

As we are doing our research on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee and looking at some of this, what we have noticed is that a lot of the people who suffered the most got the least out of the settlements.

There are still settlements that are going to take place, so what we are trying to do is study the settlements that have been resolved to learn from those so that future settlement monies will go to the people who actually were harmed. That is just one area.

But again, we have got to do everything in our power to close this gap. This is our watch. We are here today. We are the ones who must guard the progress that has been made.

Quiet as it is kept, slowly, but surely, we have seen some of that progress go in the opposite direction in a downward spiral. So what we are here to do is to make sure that not only do we stop that slide for African Americans and Hispanics, because, like I said, if we stop that slide there, then the entire economy does well, then all of us do well, and that is what it is all about.

So I want to thank the Congressional Black Caucus for doing this. This is so important. We must be the voice, and we must constantly pound the drums because so often I think what happens—and I will close on this—is a lot of times people see things going in the opposite direction and they say, we will get to it tomorrow, or we will wait another day, or somebody else will deal with it, or maybe somebody else will speak up about it.

So what happens is nobody does anything. Nobody says anything. And the next thing you know, 10 years have passed, 20 years, and you look back and you say, Wow, there was a lot of slippage there.

But you know what?

That slippage also represents people. I heard Congressman PAYNE talk about people in his district. I have heard you talk about yours and Congressman

HORSFORD. These are people. These are people whom we represent. These are people who get the early bus, the ones who go through trying to make it possible for not only their children but their grandchildren to do well.

So again, I want to thank you.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Maryland for his very thoughtful remarks and observations, and for pointing out that if we can find a way to make sure that, collectively, the African American community is uplifted, the Latino community is uplifted, that we can close the racial wealth gap that exists in America across these different measurements, whether that is home ownership or access to good-paying jobs or retirement security, savings accounts, whatever the case may be, that if we can close this gap that exists, that America, overall, benefits, particularly as we become a more diverse country.

Now, 50 years ago our President, Lyndon Baines Johnson, came to this very floor and, before a joint session of Congress, declared a war on poverty. As a result of this legislative effort, there were several things that were put into place that have benefited Americans over time. Medicare, Medicaid, Head Start, the school breakfast program, the Food Stamp Act, Job Corps, minimum wage enhancement, college work study—all of these programs were part of the effort to create a great society.

Over the last 50 years, as a result of the war on poverty, significant progress has been made. Tens of millions of Americans have been lifted out of an impoverished condition and set on a pathway toward the middle class. But we know that there is still a long way to go.

In fact, the middle class, broadly defined, has taken a huge hit in the aftermath of the collapse of the economy, and that hit has disproportionately and adversely impacted communities of color, and the African community in particular.

We are here to illuminate the fact that, in our humble opinion, that is bad for America as a whole.

I am pleased that my good friend, and the coanchor of this CBC Special Order, has joined us today, the distinguished gentleman from the Silver State, who has worked incredibly hard on behalf of the district that he represents.

Let me now yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD).

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my good friend, my colleague, the gentleman from the great State of New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) for his leadership and for coanchoring this hour, and for focusing the efforts of the Congressional Black Caucus and the attention on such an important and pressing matter as the issue of the decline of opportunities for millions of Americans.

So often people ask the question, why do you have to talk about race?

Why do you have to raise issues in the context of the disproportionality of issues as it applies to race?

□ 2045

If there is any question about why that is the need or why there is a need to do that, unfortunately, the events over the last week and the comments by individuals over the last week indicate why these issues are still so prevalent in our country.

They talk about the original sin being slavery in this country, and the fact is so much of the disparate treatment of color is based on some institutional issues that are so pervasive in a number of different areas.

For me, it is necessary because I represent a district that is very diverse, like many Members in this body. My district is home to Cliven Bundy, the rancher that has received so much national attention, not just because of the issues around his use of public lands, even though he had failed to pay the grazing fees and was prohibited from being on that land, but because of the racist, hate-filled words that he talked about pertaining to African Americans.

The fact that he said that people didn't take the time to understand his way of life in a town in Nevada's Fourth Congressional District, but yet he would profile another community based on the fact that he just drove by and looked and observed their situation and then judged and made the judgment that maybe they were better off under slavery.

Maybe it is the recent remarks by the owner of the L.A. Clippers, the fact that, in a private conversation, he would talk about what his true feelings are about the people who have made him such a wealthy individual; and yet it is that hate-filled racist view that we are here to expose today.

So when we talk about opportunity, it is fundamental. It is a fundamental tenet of our great Nation, and we still are trying to live up to that ideal of an equal opportunity for every individual.

So just like I advocate for constituents who live out in Bunkerville and Mesquite, in Moapa Valley, in Virgin Valley as part of my congressional district, in rural areas that may not have a lot of diversity, just as they are concerned with the armed militia that are still in their communities tonight—and I have spoken up and asked law enforcement agencies to help remove those armed militias from that local community that just wants to return to normal—I am also here to speak up for communities throughout my district that are very diverse, that have Latino communities and African American and Asian American communities that are faced with this opportunity gap issue that we are here to talk about.

This is not a one-way conversation that we are having. We want to invite those of you who are watching on C-SPAN or those of you who are following us on Twitter at #CBCtalks to get involved in the conversation. Tweet us your comments about what this opportunity gap means to you.

The ability to work hard and achieve success, no matter what part of society you were born in, this is what has produced the world's largest middle class and has propelled all of us to be the most powerful and wealthy country in the world; and it has also been an economy that works for everyone, in that it grows wealth from the middle out. That has produced our country's most prosperous times, and that is what we are here to defend tonight in this conversation.

But in the past two decades, in particular, and particularly during our Nation's recovery from the great recession, as my colleague from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) illuminated, the promise of opportunity is not materializing for millions of Americans.

It is not because these individuals don't want that opportunity. It is not because there is a lack of willingness or hard work on behalf of individuals. The question is: What is keeping so many people from that same opportunity?

More and more Americans are falling out of the middle class and into poverty while those in poverty are unable to climb beyond the first rung of the economic ladder.

Just last week, we learned from The New York Times that America no longer has the wealthiest middle class in the world, falling behind our neighbors to the north, Canada; and this should not come as a shock to anyone, given the troubling economic trends of the past decade or so.

We have to recognize that these income inequalities and a shrinking middle class is a crisis for our Nation and one that will not go away if we do not act. In fact, it is a crisis that will only grow worse and will ultimately catch up to our ability to sustain our position as the world's wealthiest country.

Now, as my colleague from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS), the ranking member, just said, it is not an easy crisis to solve, and no single policy will address all of the factors that are contributing to the growing opportunity gap, but one issue that I want to speak about specifically is the fact that experts have consistently and nearly universally identified the area that will go the furthest in providing expanded opportunities for all, and that is education and particularly early education.

Positive social and cognitive development starts very early, and children who are encouraged to actively learn, starting from when they are as young as 3 or 4 years old, experience tremendous long-term benefits.

Research also shows that high-quality early childhood education can provide children from poor working class backgrounds with the similar early learning experiences as children from wealthier backgrounds.

Now, why is this important? The enrollment and graduation rates by race matter. For those individuals who belong to the Asian American community, they have the highest graduation

rates, at nearly 70 percent. Among the White population, it is about 62 percent. Among the Latino community, it is 51 percent.

But for African Americans, according to the 2005 cohort, we have just a 39.9 percent graduation rate compared to enrollment. So if we are going to change these statistics, we have to start at the beginning, and that is an investment in education, in early childhood education.

Now, we can't do that by supporting the budget by Congressman PAUL RYAN, which would cut investments in Head Start, which we know greatly helps all children develop social and cognitive skills that they otherwise might not receive at home.

In addition to early education investments, it is critical that we invest in our middle schools and high schools, so that every student has an opportunity to succeed and to be prepared to go to college and ultimately graduate with a college degree.

Still, to this day, schools are not even close to receiving equal amounts of funding; and that is why groups, such as the Children's Defense Fund, talk about be careful what you cut and that our budgets reflect our values, that if we don't invest properly in education, in early childhood education, then we are not going to get the type of return on investments and improved outcomes through high school graduation and college. Low-income African American students, in particular, suffer the consequence from these circumstances.

If I could talk about this chart for just a moment, dealing with the access to a full range of courses in math and science among the White, Asian, Latino, and African American population—again, this is an issue of access.

If students aren't being exposed to a curriculum in science, technology, engineering, and math, then they are not going to be able to learn or perform or graduate in these areas.

In this chart, we see an incredibly reduced rate for African Americans when it comes to math and science courses. Only 57 percent of African American students have access to a full range of math and science courses. These are subjects that have major impacts when it comes to college readiness and achievement scores on standardized testing.

Now, in my home State of Nevada, the graduation rate discrepancy between White students and students of color is striking: 72 percent for Whites, 55 percent for Latinos, and a staggeringly low rate of 48 percent for African Americans.

Nevada's high school graduation rate is the lowest in the Nation. In fact, today, they just released the most recent high school graduation statistics for every State in the country, and Nevada was at the bottom.

It contributes greatly to our State receiving the lowest opportunity score in the country by Opportunity Nation,

which factors in economic, educational, and community conditions that affect people's ability to succeed and climb the economic ladder.

So if we don't address education and invest in education, then we are never going to really be able to truly close this wealth gap that exists.

That is why the CBC and the Democratic alternative budgets both propose investing billions of dollars—in fact, reinvesting because, under the budgets that were passed when we were in the majority in this House, the funding was there for school and the training of our teachers to properly address the growing opportunity gap between high-income and low-income students; but under the GOP here in the House, they have slashed those budgets. It is time for us to reinvest.

The Republican budget ignores the long-term opportunity gaps that arise in our Nation's low-income schools. It would pull the rug out from under as many as 3.4 million disadvantaged students and 8,000 schools across the country. It cuts 29,000 teachers and teacher aides, educating disadvantaged students by 2016. The GOP budget cuts 170,000 vulnerable children out of Head Start, as I said.

So it is pretty clear to me that the differences between the House Republican budget and the Democratic priorities stand when it comes to investing and providing opportunities to the next generation of middle class workers, but it starts with education. That is why we need to fulfill that promise of opportunity for all and allow those who work hard and who play by the rules to climb that economic ladder and to achieve economic stability in their lives, no longer living paycheck to paycheck.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank my good friend for that very comprehensive presentation and, in particular, for focusing in on the importance and the significance of investing in education in order to create a bright future for everybody.

Certainly, we cannot continue to allow so many people across this country to find themselves trapped in a dysfunctional public school system that essentially dooms them to life sentences of disadvantage and despair and fails to adequately prepare them for the challenges of a 21st century economy.

Now, we are here today talking about the racial wealth gap in America; and invariably, there will be some commentator who is going to make the observation: There they go again, members of the Congressional Black Caucus taking to the House floor, speaking about race.

Actually, it is not that frequent an occurrence, but we are compelled to do so today; and then, as my good friend made the observation: Who should we allow to talk about race in America? Should we just leave it to Paula Deen to talk about race in America? Does that reflect positively on this great country?

□ 2100

Should we just allow Cliven Bundy to talk about race in America? Does that paint our country in the best possible light? Or should we just leave it to Donald Sterling to talk about race in America? Does that reflect the views of the great many good-hearted people across this country? Of course we shouldn't. And so we are here today to illuminate a problem that we think America should deal with for the good of the country—not just the African American community, because there is a significant gap in terms of wealth generation, creation, and maintenance that threatens the economic security of this country.

Let me just briefly highlight a few points along this spectrum, one, in terms of the unemployment rate is a significant difference. The White unemployment rate is 5.8 percent in this country, as this chart illustrates. The Latino unemployment rate is 7.9 percent, and the African American unemployment rate is 12.4 percent.

In terms of annual median income, you see the same type of disparity. The average median income for White Americans is \$57,009. The average median income for African Americans is \$33,321. And in terms of overall wealth, for White families, \$113,149, but for African American families in this great country, the average collective wealth is \$5,677. That means for every \$100 in a White household, a similarly situated African American household only has \$5. That is a problem for America that we should all feel compelled to confront, and that is why the Congressional Black Caucus wants to invest in education and job training, invest in transportation and infrastructure, invest in research and development, invest in technology and innovation, and invest in preserving the social safety net so that you can lift up communities left behind by the recession, but also collectively lift up America for the good of everyone.

It is now my honor and my privilege to yield to the very distinguished gentleman from New York, a prominent member of the Ways and Means Committee, someone who has given so much of his life to public service and made such a difference for so many people in Harlem, in New York City, in the country, and, in fact, across the globe, the Lion of Lenox Avenue. I am proud to now yield to Congressman CHARLIE RANGEL.

(Mr. RANGEL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RANGEL. I want to thank you so much for pulling together this special hour. I got from New York a little late, and in working, I turned on the TV and saw these eloquent spokespeople, and I am just so glad I got here in time before our time has expired. So all of those that made this possible, it starts my new week down here with a breath of fresh air.

Last Sunday, I participated in ceremonies at Grant's Tomb. That is General Grant. That is President Grant. And his great-great-grandson was there to speak on Grant's not wanting slavery. They even had a few people dressed up in Union uniforms, which I had not seen before. But at the conclusion of listening, just a few generations ago, this guy talking about General Grant and President Grant, it convinced me that in some parts of the United States of America, they don't believe that the Union won. The reason I come to that conclusion is that, as I never saw that many Union uniforms, I have never seen so many Confederate flags that represent groups that are proud of the fact that they call themselves the Tea Party. And then I was thinking, because it was a long ceremony, where do these Tea Party people, what areas of the country are they most comfortable? And I reached the conclusion they are from that part of the country that the States owned slaves. And then I thought, well, are they Democrats or Republicans? They used to be not only Democrats, but they fought against every civil rights bill we had here.

I never thought in the 54 miles I marched with Dr. King from Selma to Montgomery that we ever would get the civil rights and the voting rights, but when we got it, somehow the Dixiecrats disappeared. And all of a sudden, they came up in the South as Republican, Republicans that really hate this President as much as their predecessors probably hated Abe Lincoln. And it was all about slavery—all about slavery. And if you go to the parts of South America and the Caribbean islands, Mexico, all you see are remnants of slavery—even Puerto Rico.

But here in this country where we thought we had broken out of the Civil War, what the heck does it take for people to understand that you shouldn't hate the President so much that you are ready to destroy the Republican Party, the entire Congress, but most of all the people of this great country? We have been able to take people of all colors, all blood, all languages, and they didn't come here and just fall in love with each other. They hardly knew each other. But somehow they set aside these differences and in 300 or 400 years became the power of the world.

That power just wasn't in dollars and cents and the ability to have more than any other country in wealth, but it was hope. It was the ability to believe that no matter what level of the economy you were in, you could achieve. This could not be said for many of the countries in Europe. That is why they loved their countries, but they cared more for their families here.

And now we have millions of people whose complexions look more like the people who were here when Columbus so-called discovered them. And then you find a hatred which defies economics and sound politics against people who want to come to this country, who

have invited constructively as we say in the law because they came, they got paid, everyone was happy, but the more that came, the more that wanted to come, their complexion started changing the complexion of the Nation.

And why they refuse to allow the President to try to remove this cancer from America, why they don't understand that we just can't afford to destroy everything this country stands for? We are talking about immigration laws so that we can bring more talent. But, most of all, most of my colleagues, we are talking about education. How the heck can we allow party differences with the President to agree that we have got 2 million human beings locked up in jail? Most of them have—the only people they ever hurt was themselves. The cost of keeping them incarcerated—cops, courts, food, and health care—is mind blowing compared to the infinitesimal fraction of America's education as paid to by this Congress. So much of the setbacks has to do with the stigma of having come from slaves rather than slave owners.

But the thing is, if a nation like ours is going to maintain any degree of similarities, we have to all pull together and not be divided by color, sex or where a person has been born or the language that they speak.

So I came over wondering what can 43 people of African background, combined with scores of people that have Latin American backgrounds, combined with so many other people that families can remember poverty and the pain of not being a part of the middle class, and to see this shrinking and missing a paycheck, a check on unemployment compensation, a month in rent, homelessness, being in shelters, not being able to get a job, losing your kids—man, that is pain. That is not America.

So what can I do? Well, I am 84, and I guess I don't want to say anything that would jeopardize my getting to Heaven without any hassles with St. Peter and the rest of them up there. So I will make an appeal to the priests, the ministers, the rabbis, and the imams in saying that you deal with a higher authority. You deal with all people. God can't possibly have expected, when He would have us to believe we are made in His image, that He could be so many different colors. He is one in our mind as He used these colors to make the world.

I want to hear their voices when we talk about education, hunger, nakedness, thirst, and being locked up and having some comfort, because that is what we are talking about today.

So let me just thank you. We can't give up. We can't give in. We can't give out. We may not have an answer in this Chamber, but the will of America can change this Chamber, and we just have to have good people, whether they are in synagogues, mosques, or cathedrals, to call their Congressperson and say that this is not the time for our great

Nation to be divided by class, color, or wealth. It is time for us to do what that sign says: "In God we trust." And we have got to trust. We have got to fight, and we are going to win.

Thank you for the opportunity for all of us to express ourselves.

Mr. JEFFRIES. I thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for his incredibly eloquent, thoughtful, and insightful presentation and analysis.

We have now been joined by a senior member of the Judiciary Committee and the Homeland Security Committee, a voice for the voiceless, someone who has fought to promote justice and equality across a wide spectrum of issues but certainly in the economic arena in such a compelling way during her career in the House and throughout her entire career in public service. Let me now yield to the distinguished gentlelady from Texas, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Let me thank the gentleman from New York for convening this dialogue with our colleagues and, through our colleagues, the American people and Mr. HORSFORD as well as the Congressional Black Caucus and the passionate words of our colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), and others who have come on this floor to challenge our colleagues.

I think the backdrop of this whole discussion is the Ryan budget, which we debated before we left for the work recess. And I think it is important that we not allow that budget to just pass with a vote and let it not represent the moral document that now the Republicans have tied themselves to.

Interestingly enough, while we were away, it seems that America caught on fire. For some reason, the season generated a number of unfortunate and sad incidents that really reinforce this wealth gap that is so very important.

I have 10 points that I would like to succinctly mention in the backdrop of the Ryan budget, which cuts drastically the social network of America which really makes America great. Some of us had the opportunity to be in countries outside, countries as we were, during the recess, South and Central America, Europe and other places.

□ 2115

You come back to this country and you thank God for its greatness, and I still do that. But I also know that it is great, or it was great, because people pull together and realize there is no shame in a social safety network because it was people of all backgrounds—Caucasians, Hispanics, African Americans and others—who were in this country who celebrated the creation of Social Security under Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Medicare and Medicaid back in the 1960s.

This is the 50th year of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and so it is tragic that we still have to look at numbers that show the wealth inequality. It is more tragic

that we compound this discrimination with ugly words that really suggest that there is a lack of understanding for why these numbers exist.

I might say to Mr. Bundy, who suggested that government subsidies is all that African Americans receive, and that we would be better off as slaves with a garden and picking cotton: maybe if there had been a fair distribution of wealth at the end of slavery, as it was supposed to be, there would have been the investment in that now-free population where you could look at them and say, Why didn't you succeed?

Well, if you read your history books, you know that we lived under a discriminatory society for much of the 20th century. And in actuality, there was not an equalizing or trying to equalize rights until the 1960s.

Even today, the decision that was just rendered on affirmative action, some people would shout for joy, but in actuality it undermines America's great quality, and that is diversity. It takes away from Hispanic and White students and African Americans students and Asian students an opportunity to go to school together, a very unfortunate decision in affirmative action, compounded, of course, by the atmosphere and the attitudes of the likes of the owner of the Clippers, who today, in 2014, suggests I don't want to be sitting next to, taking a picture with, don't promote it, whatever his heartbroken situation might have been with an ex-girlfriend, it still sets a tone that speaks, if you will, to the discrimination that exists in wealth.

Some would say, how do you tie that together? We have to change our attitudes about all of us. And frankly, unemployment rates emphasize the discrimination in employment: African Americans, 12.4 percent and higher among young African American men; Hispanics 7.9 percent.

I don't want unemployment in any group. I fight for full employment for everyone because I know that is what America is about, giving opportunity and creating the working middle class. That is what we should fight for, and I hope our discussion focuses on the fact that we want that to occur.

Decline in wealth. We can clearly see that the decline in wealth has gone to some 53 percent in the African American community. And then of course bankruptcy filings; likewise, you can show that the highest amount is in African Americans.

Let me conclude by simply saying the budget that Mr. RYAN has will never answer the question of solving the problem of lifting the boats of all Americans. I thank the gentleman for having yielded to me. The challenge tonight is clearly to find a solution that ends the evilness of racism, but more importantly lifts the boats of all of our fellow Americans because they deserve the kind of equality and wealth opportunity that goes for poor Whites, Hispanics, African Americans, and Asians. A solution must be found.

KEY MESSAGES

The median wealth of White households is 20 times that of African American households. Put differently, African Americans own just five cents for every dollar of wealth whites own.

Buying a home is the single largest investment most families can make.

Asset accumulation is the foundation to economic mobility for low- and middle-income families.

Public—such as Social Security, Medicare, and Unemployment Insurance—and private assets are important for the economic security of communities of color.

Investing in assets and limiting debt can help families build wealth and improve their financial security.

Families of color lack the necessary savings and assets to climb up the economic ladder.

This wide gap in wealth between families of color and White families is a reflection of systemic and social barriers that have limited economic mobility.

Along with a history of discrimination, communities of color face obstacles getting a good job or using banks to save for future investments.

Public policy—rooted in historical discrimination—created the racial wealth gap and it will take public policy to overcome economic inequities.

The national budget is a primary vehicle through which public assets are protected and strengthened.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COOK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. BACHMANN) for 30 minutes.

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to be here tonight. Today is a significant day. It is Holocaust Remembrance Day. And the greatest ally that the United States has, Israel, had a remarkable experience that they hold every day because of the unique situation that the Jewish people have endured, and that is, the entire nation and all of the people in Israel come to a complete stop. Cars literally stop in the middle of highways. Buses literally stop in the middle of highways. Metros stop. If a pedestrian is walking on a street, kids playing in a park, they stop. A siren goes off for 2 minutes' time, and during that time every person in the nation comes to a standstill. Why? Why this extraordinary action?

Because, quite simply, nothing like the history of Israel has ever happened anywhere in the annals of recorded human history. It is this: 6 million people lost their lives. They lost their lives simply because they were Jewish. They were children, they were grandparents, they were moms and dads. They were disfigured. They were disabled. They were high functioning. They weren't even necessarily in Israel. They were in countries all across primarily European areas. But 6 million died. And it is important that we never forget. That we never forget

that a people were so brutally targeted that 6 million were killed virtually in silence; silence because of the devious ways in which the German regime carried out this horrific action. That is what happened about 70 years ago.

We will commemorate D-day, the 70th anniversary this June 6, as we should, probably one of the greatest sacrifices ever made by one people for another, led in large part by the Americans to liberate Europe as they were under this cloud of Adolf Hitler. It is a horrific past, but it is something that we have to remember because we can never forget. We can never, ever, ever forget.

We join with our great ally Israel today as we remember this horrific act. It was a racist act on the part of Adolf Hitler. It was a bigoted act on the part of Adolf Hitler, and I think that is why today we are all rather shocked when the story was disclosed that our American Secretary of State had made comments last Friday behind closed doors in a meeting with members of the Trilateral Commission, and he had said that if Israel does not go along with the proposed two-state solution, that Israel would risk becoming an apartheid state.

Now that is a shocking comment to come from an American Secretary of State, particularly to have this comment revealed on Holocaust Remembrance Day, to accuse the Jewish people who have undergone what no other people have undergone, a horrific act to be targeted by Adolf Hitler some 70 years ago, within the lifetime of some people who remain alive today. And yet our Secretary of State, accusing this nation of engaging in an act, an institutional act against another people based upon race with no evidence whatsoever because there is none.

I want to read the definition of the 1998 Rome statute. It says:

The crime of apartheid is defined as inhuman acts committed in the context of an institutionalized regime of systematic oppression and domination by one racial group over any other racial group or groups and committed with the intention of maintaining that regime.

Now, that would apply to an Adolf Hitler. That did apply in the case of South Africa. It does not in any possible imagination or universe apply in any possible sense to the Jewish State of Israel, and yet that is what our Secretary of State said last Friday in reference to our greatest ally. Our Secretary of State needs to apologize humbly to the people of Israel, and then he needs to tender his resignation immediately to the President of the United States.

But our Secretary of State did not stop there. He went on to reiterate a statement that he had made prior that merely was an echo of what the Palestinians had intimated, and it was this: That Israel could be looking at a third fatwa—that is a war—that Israel could look at a war by the Palestinians, by people who would engage in

terrorist acts against Israel, that Israel could be looking at the threat of another war if they failed to give up 40 percent of their land to people who, number one, don't recognize that Israel has the right to exist; number two, that they have the right to exist as the Jewish state; and number three, that they have the right to defend themselves.

Since when do we force our greatest ally to sit down with people and negotiate with people who want to see them killed and annihilated? That is the stated position of Hamas. Just read article 7 of the Hamas charter.

The head of the Palestinian Authority, Abbas, recently said:

I am 79 years old, and I have no intention of changing my ways.

In other words, he has no intention of recognizing the legitimacy of the Jewish State of Israel and their right to exist. And the United States is expecting, our Secretary of State is expecting after that statement, not only that Israel would sit down and negotiate in good faith with people who have said unequivocally they will never recognize the right to exist. And Israel is the bad guy here, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, I think we have our priorities wrong. Not only did Abbas say he would not recognize Israel's right to exist, we also heard last week that the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, which is a foreign terrorist organization, part of the violent Muslim Brotherhood, have said that they are looking to merge—the Palestinian Authority and Hamas. And again, we are going to force our great ally, Israel, to sit down at a negotiating table and negotiate with terrorists over Israel's right to exist and give the terrorists 40 percent of their land?

This is madness. This is once again an alternative universe that doesn't make any sense.

Our Secretary of State went on to say that Israel has built 14,000 living units, apartments, extra rooms, what have you, for Jewish people. Well, of course, a population that increases has to build apartments.

How many times has our Secretary of State talked about the Palestinian building of apartments on their land? Because, after all, this is Israelis building apartments on their own land. Since when is this a detriment to peace? And since when will our American Secretary of State ever call out the Palestinians and say those Palestinians, they shouldn't be building apartments, they shouldn't be building houses on their own land. Are you kidding? In the multiple times that I have been to Israel and the multiple times that I have been to Ramallah, to the Palestinian Authority, it is a building bonanza going on in the Palestinian Authority. And if it is their land, more power to them. Let them go ahead and build.

□ 2130

Since when is it wrong for Israel to build on their own land? You see, there

is a reason why the Obama administration has been accused of being the most anti-Israel American administration since Harry Truman wisely recognized the modern Jewish state's sovereignty in May of 1948.

Eleven minutes after Israel declared her independence, the greatest military economic super powerhouse of the world, the United States of America, recognized Israel's right to exist. That meant something because our strength and our wealth was behind Israel. We had Israel's back.

No one, no nation, thinks that America unequivocally has Israel's back today. All you have to do is look at Israel's neighborhood. It has become a very dangerous place, a very dangerous place, indeed. The epicenter of jihad today is on Israel's border in Syria.

There are more weapons floating around in the Middle East today in the hands of terrorists than ever before; and yet our Secretary of State, rather than being focused on Iran obtaining a nuclear weapon, which it has stated unequivocally it will use to annihilate the Jewish state and to murder millions of Jewish people in Israel, rather than the Secretary of State calling out Iran for its ongoing action tonight, as I am speaking before C-SPAN and before the Speaker of this House, tonight, Iran has thousands and thousands and thousands of centrifuges spinning, fissile material that can be used and converted into nuclear weapons.

Tonight, as we speak, research and development continues to go on for nuclear warheads. Tonight, as I speak, Iran continues to work on a delivery system—a missile delivery system to deliver a nuclear bomb, a nuclear warhead with the fissile material to take out Israel. The fact is Iran already has the capability to deliver a missile into Israel.

What they don't have is that capability yet to deliver a nuclear warhead against us, the United States. You see, that is Iran's ultimate goal. They call us, the U.S., the Great Satan. Israel is the Little Satan. So, of course, the goal of Iran will be let's wipe out, with a nuclear weapon, some strategic main cities in America, so that we can achieve our real goal, which is the annihilation of the Jewish State of Israel. That is the goal.

Where is our Secretary of State calling out Iran? What about the epicenter of jihad, Syria, where weapons are awash? Where is our Secretary of State there, talking about the numerous, numerous terrorist organizations that are already running completely independent in Syria? Where is our Secretary of State talking about the problem with the communist nation of Russia, which has illegally seized Crimea and is now making incursions into the eastern area of Ukraine?

I just returned from a trip, Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, visiting some former Soviet bloc nations to talk about their response to the aggressive illegal actions of Russia and what is

happening to reset the table in the former Soviet bloc nations.

These are nations that are very worried about what they are seeing. They are worried because they understand that you can trust a communist to be a communist, and their actions today are a mere image of what their actions were formerly.

Russia recognizes that, if no one pushes back, they will continue to salivate over more lands and more influence and seek to dominate more people. Russia is responsible for enslaving millions of people. In fact, they even murdered tens of millions of their own people under Stalin. This is a regime that needs to be watched.

Unfortunately, under our previous Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, she gave, in my opinion, unwisely, the reset button to the former Russian government and apparently didn't think that they would push the button.

They did. They pushed the reset button, and they pushed it in a way that has the Soviet Union looking at the United States and making the calculation that the United States is now a weak power, that we have weakened ourselves, and therefore, now is Russia's opportune time to seek to influence and pull back into the fold former Soviet bloc nations.

As we have learned from history, when a madman speaks, listen. Madmen spoke in the form of Lenin and Stalin, and millions—tens of millions of people were enslaved in misery for decades. The same happened under Adolf Hitler, with a madman who spoke, and he murdered 6 million Jewish people. That is why we have, today, the Holocaust Remembrance Day.

We need to pay attention today to the thugs and rulers that are making their mad statements. They are doing it again. That is why again—why did the Obama administration demand that Israel release from prison over 100 murdering terrorists, murderers who murdered innocent people—children, women, men—in order for the Palestinian authority just to go to the table and have negotiations and talks?

Now, these same leaders are saying: Don't worry, we will never recognize the Jewish state; and, oh, by the way, we want to form up a new league with a terrorist organization.

That is why I say tonight, Mr. Speaker, our Secretary of State has to first apologize to the Jewish state and then tender his resignation. I call on President Obama, Mr. Speaker, to completely change course on his foreign policy.

We are looking at one foreign policy disaster after another. After the thugs of the world have calculated that the United States has put itself into a position of weakness, while we are in the process of gutting the greatest military force in the world, the bad actors of the world are recalculating and resetting the table.

We are seeing China making aggressive moves that we haven't seen before

against Japan and causing trouble in that area and region of the world. We are seeing Russia making incursions, again, as I just said, in Eastern Europe that we haven't seen before.

Even just today, we heard of a mayor in eastern Ukraine who was shot in the back by Russian forces. Just over this last weekend, there were those who were killed also in Ukraine and those who were taken hostage. This is moving forward. This isn't stopping. This is moving forward.

In Syria, with the epicenter of jihad, and as we saw three Americans killed—innocent Americans killed in Afghanistan by a member of the Taliban. You see, they are making calculations, these murderers. They are looking at the United States. They are seeing this failed foreign policy.

They are seeing that America won't stand up for her allies, like the Jewish State of Israel, and at every turn, we lift up the agenda, for some inexplicable reason, of the radical Islamist who seeks to destroy the Jewish state and destroy the United States of America. It is a policy that will lead to a day that I believe we will all regret.

That is why America and the world needs to wake up and listen to these bad actors. So when our Secretary of State calls the Jewish State of Israel an apartheid state, it is more than unhelpful. Those words are dangerous because a state that was born after seeing 6 million of its compatriots, one-third of the entire Jewish population in the world at that time, one-third of its people annihilated by the maniacal evil ruler named Hitler, to see them called an apartheid state, institutional oppression, really? There is no such thing. You will find it nowhere.

Mr. Speaker, as we look again to the Jewish state and as we remember with great sadness what this day signifies, the incredible loss of life that this signifies, I am reminded of the violence that I witnessed myself on a recent trip that I took to Israel.

I was in the area that President Obama and Secretary of State Kerry have demanded that the Jewish state give up and yield, which is 40 percent of its land. It is the biblical homeland of the Jewish people. Hebron is the city, essentially, where the Jewish people were born. Abraham was in Hebron.

It was in Hebron where I was invited into the home of a Jewish woman who is in a so-called settlement and has been there for decades. She invited me into her kitchen.

In her kitchen, she showed me some of the doors on her cabinets. Those doors on her cabinets had bullet holes in them, Mr. Speaker, bullet holes, bullet holes fired across her land, over her deck, in through the glass windows of her kitchen and into the cabinet doors of her kitchen.

Every day, her family is reminded of the very real existence that they have, that they literally can be in their home and bullets can fly in to a place where children should be able to be free,

where a wife should be able to whip up supper or breakfast and not have to dodge bullets.

You see, that is the very real existence that the Jewish citizens have had to face in the southwestern section of Israel, where I had a chance to live for a summer. The day after I graduated from high school, I was privileged to be able to go and live and work on a kibbutz down in Be'er Sheva.

Kibbutz Be'eri is the area now that is oftentimes dealing with the violence from Gaza where Qasam and various rockets are fired from Gaza into the Jewish area with no other intention other than killing innocent civilians. This is what Israel deals with on nearly a daily basis.

Mr. Speaker, just in the month of February alone this year in 2014, there were more rockets that were shot into Israel in this one month this year in February than there were all of the previous 12 months in 2013 put together.

The Jewish state is under attack, and yet what is Israel's response? In Israel, especially in the area known as the disputed territory, what is called occupied territory by people in our United States State Department, the greatest human rights that women—Arab Muslim women in the Middle East are afforded is in no other country but Israel, in the so-called occupied territory.

That is the area where women—Arab Muslim women enjoy the greatest protection of human rights, and Israel is being called the apartheid state—Muslim women enjoying the greatest rights that they can find anywhere in the Middle East in Israel.

What about jobs? Jobs are available for Palestinians in Israel at higher wages, at better conditions, and they are grateful to have those jobs. I was in the area where there is a threat by now potentially European nations and other nations.

Even 5,000 academics from America were calling for boycotts, divestment, and sanctions on any products that are made in the so-called occupied territories of Judea and Samaria. Those are Israel's biblical homeland. There are 3,500 years of history. Just pick up the Bible, read the Bible.

This is the land that God gave to Abraham. He said: I give you this land, Abraham, to you and your descendants through Isaac. Through the descendants of Abraham, I give you this land, not just for a year or 5 years or 10 years.

But in the Bible, God said: I give you this land for eternity.

□ 2145

If you don't want to believe the Bible or if you think that it is a book of fiction, that is up to you. I believe it is true. You can look at historic documents. You can look at documents from this last century. International agreements gave this particular piece of land not to any other country but to Israel. This is Israel's rightful land.

Don't we recognize that this has been a very long effort on the part of the Arab Muslim people, who made a decision that they don't want Israel to exist?

As I said previously, Mr. Speaker, even the head of the Palestinian Authority—Abbas—has said:

I am 79 years old. I am certainly not about to recognize Israel now.

He is the one Israel is supposed to negotiate with?

Even with the leader of the Palestinian Authority—and going back for decades—the stated position has been from the Palestinians: Israel does not have the right to exist. We will push the Jews into the sea, and we will take it over.

It isn't that they just don't want Israel. It is that they don't want any Jews in Israel. They want Jews gone. They don't want Jews anywhere on the planet. There is nowhere they believe that the Jewish people have the right to exist.

And this is after 6 million Jews were murdered by Hitler?

You see, there is an ongoing genocide, if you will, because there is a group of people who still believes today that the Jews have no right to exist. This isn't just a modern phenomenon. You can go back to the days of Haman, when Haman didn't want to have the Jewish people exist, and he persuaded the king at that time to issue an edict to eliminate and exterminate all of the Jewish people.

One woman—her name was Esther—was called upon by her uncle, Mordecai, and Mordecai said to her:

Esther, could it be that you have been called to a position for such a time as this?

Mordecai, her uncle, called upon Queen Esther, and said to the queen:

You need to go to the king, and you need to ask the king to pardon the Jewish people from this death sentence.

Esther said to her uncle:

But if I go in to the king, I could be killed. I am not allowed to just go in to the king. I have to wait until he calls upon me.

That is when Mordecai infamously said to his niece, to Queen Esther:

Could it be but that you were appointed for such a time as this?

She rose up at that moment. She had courage, and she went before the king. The king, rather than banishing her or rather than having her see the end of her life, called her in, and he asked what it was that she wanted. She made the request and interceded on behalf of the Jewish people, and, ultimately, the Jewish people were spared.

You see, Mr. Speaker, this isn't a one-off. This is throughout history—from the time of the creation of the Jewish people through Abraham and through Abraham's line. This was a God thing. He created this people. He created this race.

In the Book of Genesis, it is extremely clear:

Those who bless Israel, I will bless, says God. Those who curse Israel, I will curse, says God.

That isn't just a one-off. It is for all time.

The United States of America, I believe—it is my opinion—has been singularly blessed by standing by the Jewish people, and on this day of remembrance of the Holocaust, we stand with Israel. We, too, remember, and we stand up against those who want to see the extermination and the annihilation of the Jewish race.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of him assisting with the emergency response to the tornadoes in Arkansas.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker pro tempore, Mr. THORNBERRY, on Thursday, April 10, 2014, announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 2195. An act to deny admission to the United States to any representative to the United Nations who has been found to have been engaged in espionage activities or terrorist activity against the United States and

poses a threat to United States national security interests.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 49 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 29, 2014, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2014 pursuant to Public Law 95-384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO UNITED KINGDOM, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAR. 18 AND MAR. 24, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Ander Crenshaw	3/19	3/23	United Kingdom		1,968.00		n/a				1,968.00
Hon. David Cicilline	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		1,600.00				4,040.00
Hon. Robert Latta	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		1,470.00				3,910.00
Hon. Robert Aderholt	3/19	3/23	United Kingdom		1,968.00		1,515.00				3,483.00
Hon. Ed Whitfield	3/18	3/23	United Kingdom		1,968.00		1,030.00				2,998.00
Hon. John Delaney	3/20	3/24	United Kingdom		1,968.00		820.00				2,788.00
Hon. Phil Roe	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		7,490.00				9,930.00
Hon. George Holding	3/19	3/23	United Kingdom		1,968.00		1,716.00				3,684.00
Hon. Jim Moran	3/18	3/23	United Kingdom		1,968.00		1,062.00				3,030.00
Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		1,062.00				3,502.00
Janice Robinson	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		1,062.00				3,502.00
Ed Rice	3/20	3/23	United Kingdom		2,440.00		1,062.00				3,502.00
Committee total					26,448.00		19,889.00				46,337.00

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW, Apr. 14, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS, Chairman, Apr. 4, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Apr. 2, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. <input type="checkbox"/>											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER, Chairman, Apr. 2, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. PETE SESSIONS, Chairman, Apr. 1, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	3/9	3/11	Belgium		535.48				117.25		652.73
Richard Obermann	3/9	3/11	Belgium		946.44		2,050.50		51.00		3,047.94

Committee total					1,481.92		2,050.50		168.25		3,700.67
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¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Apr. 15, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. SAM GRAVES, Chairman, Apr. 2, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BILL SHUSTER, Chairman, Apr. 8, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DAVE CAMP, Vice Chairman, Apr. 3, 2014.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2014

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

Mark Milosch	2/12	2/16	Austria	Euro	1,487.00		1,751.00				3,238.00
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Committee total					1,487.00		1,751.00				3,238.00
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¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH, Co-Chairman, Apr. 15, 2014.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

5438. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Consolidation of Permit Procedures; Denial and Revocation of Permits [Docket No.: APHS-2011-0085] (RIN: 0579-DA76) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

5439. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Stephen P. Mueller, United States Air Force, and his advancement on the retired list in the grade of lieutenant general; to the Committee on Armed Services.

5440. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Policy and Licensing Division Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Service Rules Governing Public Safety Narrowband Operations in the 769-775/799-805 MHz Bands [WT Docket No.: 96-86] received April 14, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5441. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Response Strategies for Potential Aircraft Threats, Regulatory Guide 1.214, Revision 1 received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

5442. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Changes to Authorized Officials and the UK Defense Trade Treaty Exemption; Correction of Terrorism Lebanon Policy and Violations; and Adoption of Recent Amendments as Final: Correction (RIN: 1400-AD49) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

5443. A letter from the Diversity and Inclusion Programs Director, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting the Board's FY 2013 report, pursuant to the requirements of section 203(b) of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No Fear Act); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5444. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting Transmittal of D.C. Act 20-307, "Small and Certified Business Enterprise Development and Assistance Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5445. A letter from the Director, Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, transmitting the Agency's annual report for FY 2013 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5446. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's annual report for Fiscal Year 2013 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to

the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5447. A letter from the Director, Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting the Agency's annual report for FY 2013 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5448. A letter from the Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity Programs, National Archives, transmitting a copy of the Administration's Fiscal Year 2013 Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation (No FEAR) Act Annual Report; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5449. A letter from the Acting Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting the Foundation's annual report for FY 2013 prepared in accordance with Title II of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5450. A letter from the Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's annual report for FY 2013 prepared in accordance with Section 203 of the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act), Public Law 107-174; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

5451. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Permits, Division of Management Authority, USFWS, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reinstatement of the Regulation that Excludes U.S. Captive-Bred Scimitar-Horned Oryx, Addax, and Dama Gazelle from Certain Prohibitions [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-IA-2014-0010; 92220-1113-0000; ABC Code: C6] (RIN: 1018-BA47) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5452. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Endangered Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status for the Olympia Pocket Gopher, Roy Prairie Pocket Gopher, Tenino Pocket Gopher, and Yelm Pocket Gopher, with Special Rule [FWS-R1-ES-2012-0088] (RIN: 1018-AZ17) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5453. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska During the 2014 Season [Docket No.: FWS-R7-MB-2013-0109] [FF09M21200-123-FXMB1231099BPP0L2] (RIN: 1018-BA02) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5454. A letter from the Department of the Interior Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determination of Threatened Species Status for the Georgetown Salamander and Salado Salamander Throughout Their Ranges [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2012-0035; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-AY22) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5455. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Recovery and State Grants, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Island

Night Lizard from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife [Docket No.: FWS-R8-ES-2013-0099] (RIN: 1018-AY44) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5456. A letter from the Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — 2013-2014 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-NWRS-2013-0074] (RIN: 1018-AZ87) received April 11, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

5457. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's 52nd annual report of activities for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5458. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a report concerning the operations and status of the Government Securities Investment Fund (G-Fund) of the Federal Employees Retirement System during the debt issuance suspension period, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 8438(h); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

[The following action occurred on April 11, 2014]

Mr. CAMP: Committee on Ways and Means. Referral to the Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr. Attorney General, of former Internal Revenue Service Exempt Organizations Division Director Lois G. Lerner for possible criminal prosecution for violations of one or more criminal statutes based on evidence the Committee has uncovered in the course of the investigation of IRS abuses (Rept. 113-414). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[The following action occurred on April 14, 2014]

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives find Lois G. Lerner, Former Director, Exempt Organizations, Internal Revenue Service, in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with a Subpoena Duly Issued by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Rept. 113-415). Referred to the House Calendar.

[Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 544, the following reports were filed on April 17, 2014]

Mr. CULBERSON: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 4486. A bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-416). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. COLE: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 4487. A bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-417). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

[Submitted on April 28, 2014]

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 4192. A bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act to regulate the height of buildings in the District of Columbia" to clarify the rules of the District of Columbia regarding human occupancy of

penthouses above the top story of the building upon which the penthouse is placed (Rept. 113-418). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 4194. A bill to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements (Rept. 113-419). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4002. A bill to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-420). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4120. A bill to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date (Rept. 113-421). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. BURGESS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 555. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4414) to clarify the treatment under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of health plans in which expatriates are the primary enrollees, and for other purposes (Rept. 113-422). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. LEWIS (for himself and Ms. BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 4488. A bill to make technical corrections to two bills enabling the presentation of congressional gold medals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLEAVER (for himself, Mr. POE of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. YODER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. RUSH, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 4489. A bill to designate memorials to the service of members of the United States Armed Forces in World War I, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROYCE (for himself, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. SALMON):

H.R. 4490. A bill to enhance the missions, objectives, and effectiveness of United States international communications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 4491. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to restore the 10-year statute of limitations applicable to collection of debt by administrative offset; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 4492. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the availability of breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling under the TRICARE program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

H.R. 4493. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the definition of minister for purposes of excluding the rental value of a parsonage from gross income to include duly recognized officials of nontheistic spiritual, moral, or ethical organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. DEGETTE (for herself and Mr. PAULSEN):

H.R. 4494. A bill to launch a national strategy to support regenerative medicine through funding for research and commercial development of regenerative medicine products and development of a regulatory environment that enables rapid approval of safe and effective products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FORBES (for himself and Ms. HANABUSA):

H.R. 4495. A bill to strengthen the United States commitment to the security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARDNER:

H.R. 4496. A bill to establish universal access programs to improve high risk pools and reinsurance markets to ensure coverage for individuals with pre-existing conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GARDNER:

H.R. 4497. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax relief for damages relating to federally declared disasters during September 2013, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia:

H.R. 4498. A bill to provide for the legitimate use of medicinal marijuana in accordance with the laws of the various States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 4499. A bill to require reports submitted to Congress under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to also be submitted to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 4500. A bill to improve the management of cyber and information technology ranges and facilities of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 4501. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the limits on expensing of certain depreciable business assets; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4502. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to exempt certain products from the requirements of subsections (d) and (e) of section 310 of the Controlled Substances Act if it is not practical to use such products in the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. McDERMOTT:

H.R. 4503. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. TSONGAS (for herself, Mr. PETERS of California, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana):

H.R. 4504. A bill to improve military readiness by establishing programs to consistently track, retain, and analyze information regarding suicides involving members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces and suicides involving dependents of members of the regular and reserve components; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. TSONGAS (for herself, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 4505. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States and the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense to assess the cloud security requirements of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Ms. LOFGREN introduced a bill (H.R. 4506) for the relief of Antonia Esmeralda Aguilar Belmontes; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. CULBERSON:

H.R. 4486.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law . . ." In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . ." Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 4487.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United

States (the appropriation power), which states: "No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law" In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides: "The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States" Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

By Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 4488.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 5 and Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H.R. 4489.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. ROYCE:

H.R. 4490.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 4491.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 4492.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

H.R. 4493.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 4494.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: "The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;" and

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: "The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. FORBES:

H.R. 4495.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18

By Mr. GARDNER:

H.R. 4496.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GARDNER:

H.R. 4497.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The Congress shall have Power To lay and Collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

By Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia:

H.R. 4498.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. HIMES:

H.R. 4499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 4500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 4501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States) of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4502.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. McDERMOTT:

H.R. 4503.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Ms. TSONGAS:

H.R. 4504.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

By Ms. TSONGAS:

H.R. 4505.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

Ms. LOFGREN:

H.R. 4506.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 and Amendment I, Clause 3 of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 20: Mr. BECERRA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Ms. HAHN.

H.R. 32: Mr. STOCKMAN, Ms. BROWN of Florida and Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 54: Mr. JOLLY.

H.R. 60: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 148: Mr. WAXMAN and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 155: Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 300: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 333: Mr. JOLLY and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 351: Mr. JOLLY.

H.R. 352: Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. POMPEO.

H.R. 389: Mrs. ELLMERS.

H.R. 411: Mr. McDERMOTT.

H.R. 485: Mr. LANCE.

H.R. 494: Mr. ROSS and Mr. MARCHANT.

H.R. 508: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 519: Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 521: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico and Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 543: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida and Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.

H.R. 556: Mr. JOLLY.

H.R. 563: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.

H.R. 578: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. GOWDY.

H.R. 594: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. NUGENT, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 676: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 713: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. COBLE, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 719: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 721: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.R. 732: Mr. GINGREY of Georgia.

H.R. 741: Mrs. NOEM.

H.R. 837: Mr. CROWLEY.

H.R. 906: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

H.R. 963: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KIND, Mr. DEUTCH, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 997: Mr. LAMBORN.

H.R. 1020: Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. HARTZLER, and Ms. FUDGE.

H.R. 1070: Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. ENYART, and Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 1074: Mr. ROSS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. STOCKMAN, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. THORNBERRY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 1094: Mr. COFFMAN and Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 1141: Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. McDERMOTT and Mrs. NOEM.

H.R. 1148: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1149: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1175: Mr. HECK of Washington.

H.R. 1179: Mr. LOBIONDO.

H.R. 1199: Ms. GABBARD.

H.R. 1201: Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 1250: Mr. MESSER and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 1266: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. O'ROURKE.

H.R. 1284: Ms. BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 1286: Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 1330: Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 1331: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.

H.R. 1369: Mr. WAXMAN.

H.R. 1428: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 1429: Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MENG, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1470: Mr. SCHNEIDER.

H.R. 1507: Mr. VISCLOSKEY and Ms. MENG.

H.R. 1509: Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1515: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1528: Mr. KING of New York.

H.R. 1563: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MARINO, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.

H.R. 1573: Mr. ROSKAM and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 1588: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1597: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.

H.R. 1619: Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 1649: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 1666: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. GIBSON.

H.R. 1698: Mr. LYNCH and Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 1716: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.

H.R. 1736: Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 1750: Mr. MAFFEI, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. RAHALL.

H.R. 1771: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 1798: Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 1812: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. SALMON, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

- H.R. 1821: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 1827: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. BASS.
H.R. 1830: Mrs. BEATTY and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 1852: Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. LOBIONDO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. McDERMOTT.
H.R. 1861: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1883: Mr. BISHOP of Utah.
H.R. 1893: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1975: Mr. RUSH and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 1998: Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. FARENTHOLD.
H.R. 2028: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 2035: Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 2037: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 2056: Mr. TIERNEY.
H.R. 2101: Mr. LEWIS.
H.R. 2123: Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 2135: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 2139: Ms. BORDALLO and Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 2203: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. OWENS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUPERSBERGER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. ROSS, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. BECERRA, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 2324: Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. GOHMERT.
H.R. 2332: Mr. McDERMOTT.
H.R. 2365: Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.
H.R. 2377: Mr. SMITH of Washington and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 2424: Mr. YARMUTH and Mr. McINTYRE.
H.R. 2429: Mr. ROSS, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 2493: Mr. LOEBACK.
H.R. 2502: Ms. ESTY and Mr. BARBER.
H.R. 2509: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 2537: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 2548: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. GRIMM, Ms. DELBENE, and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 2553: Mr. WALZ and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2591: Mr. McCAUL.
H.R. 2632: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
H.R. 2648: Mr. CLAY and Mr. FARR.
H.R. 2654: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 2662: Ms. BROWN of Florida.
H.R. 2663: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. WOLF, Mr. JOYCE, Ms. BASS, and Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico.
H.R. 2692: Mr. LEWIS and Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 2697: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2707: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 2746: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 2782: Mr. TIBERI.
H.R. 2794: Mr. NUGENT.
H.R. 2800: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. TSONGAS, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2807: Mr. MARINO, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 2825: Mr. HECK of Washington.
H.R. 2841: Ms. TSONGAS and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 2870: Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 2892: Mr. McHENRY.
H.R. 2907: Mr. MASSIE.
H.R. 2921: Mr. HIGGINS.
H.R. 2939: Mr. COTTON, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. BOUSTANY, and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 2955: Mr. YARMUTH and Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 2959: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 2978: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2996: Mr. CHABOT, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. JONES, Mr. KILMER, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 3043: Mr. ROONEY.
H.R. 3097: Ms. SCHWARTZ.
H.R. 3240: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 3279: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama and Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 3303: Mrs. LOWEY.
H.R. 3310: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3313: Mr. NUNES and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 3334: Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 3335: Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 3344: Mr. YOHO, Mrs. BLACK, Mr. O'ROURKE, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3367: Mr. MEADOWS and Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 3377: Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CULBERSON and Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 3382: Mr. POLIS, Mr. McCAUL, and Mr. MULVANEY.
H.R. 3407: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 3413: Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 3416: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 3461: Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 3478: Mr. AMODEI and Mr. TERRY.
H.R. 3494: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 3505: Mr. PETERSON, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. McHENRY.
H.R. 3549: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 3571: Mr. DENT, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 3593: Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 3600: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 3601: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 3610: Mr. YOHO, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HOLDING, Mrs. BLACK, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. LATTA.
H.R. 3619: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3655: Mr. LEWIS.
H.R. 3657: Mr. KING of New York.
H.R. 3665: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. MICHAUD.
H.R. 3673: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. BARBER, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 3689: Ms. FOXF.
H.R. 3698: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3708: Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, and Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 3712: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DOGGETT, and Ms. SPIER.
H.R. 3723: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 3742: Mr. GUTHRIE and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 3744: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3833: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. GRAVES of Missouri.
H.R. 3836: Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 3854: Mr. KIND, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. ENYART, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. ESTY, and Mr. NUNES.
H.R. 3877: Mr. POSEY, Mr. HECK of Washington, and Mr. PETERSON.
H.R. 3925: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3929: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H.R. 3930: Mr. FLORES, Mr. BENISHEK, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. JOLLY, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. WOODALL, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MARINO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, and Mr. LOEBACK.
H.R. 3978: Mr. LIPINSKI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. McINTYRE.
H.R. 3982: Ms. TSONGAS and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 3988: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3992: Mr. POLLS, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. DAINES.
H.R. 4031: Mr. POSEY, Mr. WALDEN, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. COOK, and Mr. WENSTRUP.
H.R. 4035: Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4040: Mr. MORAN and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4058: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. YOHO, Mrs. BLACK, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4060: Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, and Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 4092: Ms. TSONGAS and Ms. SPEIER.
H.R. 4102: Ms. PINGREE of Maine and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 4106: Mr. BYRNE and Mr. HOLDING.
H.R. 4108: Ms. SHEA-PORTER.
H.R. 4119: Ms. WATERS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 4131: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 4148: Mr. FOSTER, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DEFazio, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.
H.R. 4158: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4162: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 4173: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4188: Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. JONES, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. RANGEL.
H.R. 4190: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. RUSH, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. HARPER.
H.R. 4208: Mr. TAKANO and Ms. BASS.
H.R. 4213: Mr. JOYCE.
H.R. 4219: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 4221: Ms. BASS.
H.R. 4225: Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. STEWART, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. WALBERG, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BARR, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PEARCE, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. CRAMER, and Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 4226: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4227: Ms. DELBENE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. DEUTCH.
H.R. 4234: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 4254: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 4261: Mr. YODER.
H.R. 4272: Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS.
H.R. 4285: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 4304: Mr. COTTON, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. MEADOWS, and Mr. ROKITA.
H.R. 4305: Ms. GABBARD, Mr. COFFMAN, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4308: Mr. NUGENT.
H.R. 4316: Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. OLSON.
H.R. 4317: Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 4318: Mr. COTTON, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. CRAMER.
H.R. 4320: Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 4321: Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 4325: Ms. DELAURO and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 4342: Mr. GIBBS, Mr. NUGENT, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas.
H.R. 4346: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 4349: Mr. COTTON.
H.R. 4351: Mr. JOYCE, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. LANCE, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. VELA, Mr. HONDA, Mr. PETERSON, Ms. MENG, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 4365: Mr. ENYART, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. TURNER, Mr. MARINO, and Mr. ELLISON.

H.R. 4367: Mr. DAINES and Mr. MASSIE.
 H.R. 4370: Mr. SALMON.
 H.R. 4383: Mr. BACHUS.
 H.R. 4387: Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. COTTON, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. HULTGREN.
 H.R. 4388: Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 4407: Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. PETERSON.
 H.R. 4410: Mr. ENYART, Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 4415: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. DeLAURO, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. ESTY, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARCIA, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NEGRETE McLEOD, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. POCAN, Mr. RUPERSBERGER, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. KILMER, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. FARR, Mr. ISRAEL, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. RUSH, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. WELCH, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. PASITOR of Arizona, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.
 H.R. 4426: Mr. WALZ and Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.R. 4427: Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 4429: Mr. ROSKAM and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 4438: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. REED, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, and Mr. MARINO.
 H.R. 4445: Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 4450: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KEATING, Mr. ISRAEL, and Ms. NORTON.
 H.R. 4457: Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. REED, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. RIBBLE, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
 H.R. 4459: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. LEWIS.
 H.R. 4460: Mr. JOLLY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 4464: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California.
 H.J. Res. 50: Mr. BARLETTA.
 H.J. Res. 113: Ms. WATERS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. ESTY.
 H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. KEATING.
 H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H. Con. Res. 51: Mr. ROTHFUS and Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H. Con. Res. 86: Mr. WALDEN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. GIBBS.
 H. Con. Res. 94: Mr. COTTON.
 H. Res. 30: Ms. TSONGAS and Mr. JOLLY.
 H. Res. 72: Ms. BROWN of Florida.
 H. Res. 109: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
 H. Res. 169: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. LEWIS.
 H. Res. 190: Mr. MORAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. TSONGAS.
 H. Res. 208: Mr. ENGEL.
 H. Res. 284: Mr. CUELLAR.
 H. Res. 365: Mr. COURTNEY.
 H. Res. 412: Mr. STIVERS.
 H. Res. 422: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
 H. Res. 489: Mr. ELLISON and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H. Res. 494: Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
 H. Res. 503: Mr. DOYLE.
 H. Res. 522: Mr. HONDA.
 H. Res. 525: Mr. HIGGINS and Ms. WATERS.
 H. Res. 526: Ms. KAPTUR and Ms. JENKINS.
 H. Res. 527: Ms. TITUS.
 H. Res. 532: Mrs. NAPOLITANO and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
 H. Res. 538: Mr. RANGEL.
 H. Res. 540: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. SCHWARTZ.
 H. Res. 545: Mr. GIBSON.
 H. Res. 547: Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. WOLF, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. JONES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. LATTA.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. CAMP

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Ways and Means in H.R.

4414, "Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014," do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY MR. GOODLATTE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Judiciary in H.R. 4414 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. HASTINGS OF WASHINGTON

The provisions of H.R. 4414, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014, that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of House rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. KLINE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in H.R. 4414, the Expatriate Health Coverage Clarification Act of 2014, do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF MICHIGAN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 4414 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. UPTON

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Energy and Commerce in H.R. 4414 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4486

OFFERED BY: MR. ROTHFUS

AMENDMENT No. 1: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:
 SEC. ____ None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay a performance award under section 5384 of title 5, United States Code.